In Sports: Norse looks to fend off Vikings in TRC defense. **Page B1**

Wabash Plain Dealer

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Pulse of Wabash

Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. Stories older than a few weeks are not yet available but will be soon. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

Hundreds of students to compete at Manchester Science Olympiad

The annual Manchester University Science Olympiad Invitational draws hundreds of middle and high school students. At the Saturday, Jan. 11 invitational, 21 high school teams and nine middle school teams will bring about 400 students to the North Manchester campus.

'Death by Chocolate' auditions set; tickets on sale

The Wabash Area Community Theater's auditions for the winter comedy "Death by Chocolate" will be held on from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, in the Honeywell Center. For the show itself, doors open at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7; and doors will open at noon and dinner is at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8. Tickets are on sale now at the Charley Creek Inn reception desk. For more information, call Bruce Rovelstad at 260-330-0543 or Bev Vanderpool at 765-661-8206.

Anniversaries of church, first Wabash County business planned

The Richvalley United Methodist Church is set to celebrate milestones with the community and church with a spaghetti, salad and dessert lunch at 11 a.m. following the morning worship service Sunday, Jan. 12 in the Community Building, 250 N. Jefferson St. The public is invited to attend.

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Flood warning in effect through the weekend

High waters may make travel dangerous

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

The National Weather Service (NWS) Northern Indiana has issued a flood warning for the area through the weekend.

In a Friday phone interview, Nathan Marsili, NWS Northern Indiana meteorologist, said there was already a flood watch in place, but that would be moving to flood warning lasting from Saturday night through Monday night.

"Flood watch is more of a heads up, 48 to 72 hours advance of the situation that heavy rain is expected," he said. "Whereas, a flood warning is more imminent in the 12 or earlier hours."

The flood watch remains in effect from Friday evening to Saturday night for portions of northern Indiana, southwest Michigan and northwest Ohio.

"Widespread moderate to heavy rainfall will occur this evening through Saturday evening," stated the NWS Northern Indiana on Friday morning. "Total rainfall amounts of 3 to 5 inches are likely across the watch area. The heaviest rainfall rates are expected tonight into Saturday morning, especially in embedded thunderstorms."

This storm may make travel more hazardous.

"Flooding of streams, creeks and low lying areas, including roads and underpasses, is expected. In addition, significant river flooding is expected later this weekend and extend through much of next week," stated the NWS Northern Indiana.

Wabash and Eel rivers flooding

The flood warning continues for the Wabash River at Wabash affecting Cass, Miami and Wabash counties; and the Eel River at North Manchester affecting Cass, Kosciusko, Miami, Wabash and Whitley counties.

"Heavy rain is expected to cause significant rises on area rivers beginning Saturday," stated the NWS Northern Indiana. "Never drive vehicles through flooded areas. The water may be too deep to allow safe passage. Never allow children to play in or near floodwaters."

As of 8 p.m. Thursday, the Wabash River stage at Wabash was 4.7 feet and steady.

"Minor flooding is forecast," stated the NWS Northern Indiana. "Flood stage is 14 feet. The river will rise above flood stage Saturday evening and crest near 17.7 feet around 7 a.m. Sunday and fall below flood stage around 3 a.m. Monday. At 17 feet some low lying areas and lowest sections of Wabash and Lagro begin to flood."

As of 8 p.m. Thursday, the Eel River at North Manchester was 3.5 feet and steady.

"Major flooding is forecast," stated the NWS Northern Indiana. "Flood stage is 11 feet. The river will rise above flood stage Saturday afternoon and crest near 16.8 feet around

See **FLOOD** / Page A3

PROVIDED PHOTOS

BOOKS: Students from Manchester Elementary School in Mandi Jones' kindergarten class show off their new books.

Wabash County United Fund distributes 1,255 board books

Thirty-five classes of over 600 children receive donations

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

The Wabash County United Fund has distributed 1,255 board books to preschools and kindergartens throughout the county to be given as gifts either for Christmas, Dr. Seuss Day or both, according to Di Wion, resource coordinator for the Wabash County United Fund.

Indiana United Way (IUW) received a grant from OMG ("Offering More Great") Books and shared a part of that, $4,000, with Wabash County United Fund, facilitating the purchase of these books.

In response to a Plain Dealer request, Wion stated that according to Steve Johnson, executive assistant, that it is a first for both Indiana United Way and Wabash County United Fund.

"The grant amount from OMG to IUW was a big one, and IUW dispersed portions of the gift throughout the state," stated Wion. "We received a small portion of it, but we made our amount go far in this county."

See **BOOKS** / Page A3

DONATIONS: The Wabash County United Fund has distributed 1,255 board books to preschools and kindergartens throughout the county.

Museum, WCPL announce joint programming

Grant allows participation in the statewide reading initiative

STAFF REPORT

The Wabash County Museum has been awarded a Community Read grant of $750 from Indiana Humanities to participate in a statewide read of Jean Thompson's "The Year We Left Home," according to a press release.

See **JOINT** / Page A3

MU to start spring semester with 'brilliant' challenge

Spring Convocation set for 3 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28

BY ANNE GREGORY

Manchester University President Dave McFadden is kicking off the spring semester with a challenge "to be brilliant, to be resilient, to be bright lights for others."

The Spring Convocation is at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28, the first day of classes, in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus.

"I want to lift up the opportunities and possibilities we all have at Manchester.

See **SEMESTER** / Page A3

Health officials offer tips to prevent birth defects

January is National Birth Defects Prevention Month

STAFF REPORT

Birth defects are the second-leading cause of infant deaths in Indiana, and about 2,500 Indiana babies are born with birth defects each year, according to a press release.

Congenital malformations, such as cardiovascular, chromosomal, central nervous system and musculoskeletal defects, contributed to about one in five infant deaths in Indiana in 2018.

Gov. Eric J. Holcomb has made having the lowest infant mortality rate in the Midwest by 2024 a top priority of his administration. To help accomplish this, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) is joining with leading prenatal health organizations during National Birth Defects Prevention Month in January to increase awareness of five critical tips to reduce the chances of having a baby with a birth defect.

The National Birth Defects Prevention Network's awareness campaign theme, "Best for You. Best for Baby," aims to raise awareness of these five tips:

- Take 400 micrograms (mcg) of folic acid every day. Folic acid is very important because it can help prevent some major birth defects of the baby's brain and spine.
- Schedule a visit with your healthcare provider before stopping or starting any medicine. There are often benefits to continuing treatment throughout pregnancy. Discussing a treatment plan before a pregnancy allows a woman and her healthcare provider to weigh the pros and cons of all options to keep mom and baby as healthy as possible.
- Become up-to-date with all vaccines, including the flu shot. Having the right vaccinations, like influenza and Tdap vaccines, at the right time during pregnancy can help keep a woman and her baby healthy.
- Before you get pregnant, try to reach a healthy weight. Obesity increases the risk of several serious birth defects and other pregnancy complications.
- Avoid harmful substances during pregnancy, such as alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. There is no known safe amount of alcohol during pregnancy, and exposure to alcohol can cause significant birth defects. Smoking during pregnancy can cause dangerous chemicals to damage the placenta and/or reach the baby's bloodstream, and the opioid epidemic has led to a sharp increase in neonatal abstinence syndrome, premature birth and drug withdrawal in developing babies.

ISDH encourages health advocates as well as the general public to be active participants in National Birth Defects Prevention Month, which is also supported by experts from the National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Academy of Pediatrics, March of

See **TIPS** / Page A3

PULSE

Continued from A1

Population decline study results to be presented

The North Manchester Historical Society will host Patty Grant, executive director of the Community Foundation of Wabash County, as she presents the findings of an investigative study concerning population decline in Wabash County. The program will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13 in the Assembly Room at Timbercrest Retirement Center, 2201 East St., North Manchester. There is no cost to attend the program and the presentation will be informative for all ages.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to meet

Wabash County's Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14 at the Grandstaff Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave. The program will be presented by Beverly Ferry, CEO, Living Well in Wabash County. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. For more information, call Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Barbara Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Woman's Clubhouse January luncheon set

The Women's Clubhouse will host the monthly luncheon and program on "The Tradition Dulcimer" by Dan Daniels, New Traditions Dulcimer, at noon Tuesday, Jan. 14. This program is sponsored by Borders and Beyond. Please make reservations by phone to Carol McDonald at 260-563-2331 or Mary Delauter at 260-563-6613.

Red Cross plans blood donation opportunity for Jan. 17

The Red Cross has planned a blood donation opportunity from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 17 at Whites Residential and Family Service, 5233 S. 50 East.

Swayzee Lions Club plans euchre event

The Swayzee Lions Club has planned a euchre event for Saturday, Jan. 18 at Swayzee United Methodist Church, 306 S. Washington St., Swayzee. The entry fee is $12.50. Registration will last from noon to 12:45 p.m. Play begins at 1 p.m. There will be cash prizes for: Most Loners, Highest Score, Second Highest Score, 50-50 Drawing and two entry fee drawings. Soft drinks, hot dogs, chips, popcorn and candy will be available for a donation. All proceeds support the Lions Club Scholarship Fund. For more information, call Joe Hamilton at 765-922-7280 or Terry Shaw at 765-667-4848.

Red Cross plans blood donation opportunity for Jan. 21

The Red Cross has planned a blood donation opportunity from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21 at First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.

Red Cross plans blood donation opportunity for Jan. 22

The Red Cross has planned a blood donation opportunity from 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22 at Richvalley Community Center, 56 W. Mill St.

Experience the 'Silence of a Winter's Night'

Enjoy the "Silence of a Winter's Night" from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25 at Salamonie Lake's Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The cost is $10 per person, and space is limited. Advance registration is required by calling 260-468-2127.

Wabash Tri Kappa to sponsor 14th Annual Winter Gala

The gala will take place Saturday, Feb. 1, at Heartland REMC, 250 Wedcor Ave. Doors will open at 6 p.m., and dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $30 per person and must be purchased by Tuesday, Jan. 28. Tickets may be purchased from Tri Kappa Members or at the following locations: Wabash City Hall, 202 S. Wabash St.; Friermood Tire & Alignment, 1699 Stitt St.; and the dental office of Dr. Bing M. Fowler DDS, 1911 S. Wabash St. For more information, call Beth Miller at 260-563-1128.

February Salamonie Senior Luncheon set

The monthly Salamonie Senior Luncheon will be held at noon on Monday, Feb. 3, at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center, at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Anyone age 50 or older is welcome to attend. Upper Wabash Interpretive Services interpretive naturalist Lynnanne Fager will share her personal experiences with Indiana bald eagles. The program begins with a carry-in meal at noon. Chicken and noodles and mashed potatoes will be provided. Guests should bring a side dish to share, a beverage and their own table service. A $1 donation will be accepted. Reservations may be made by calling 260-468-2127.

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ to host prom for people with special needs

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ will host Night to Shine 2020 from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7 at Northfield High School, 154 W. 200 North. For additional information, visit www.bachelorcreek.com.

Artists sought for Honeywell Foundation's art competition

The Honeywell Foundation's Clark Gallery will be hosting its annual 92 County Art Show through Wednesday, Feb. 19. A public reception for this event will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2020. For more information, contact Michele Hughes at mhughes@HoneywellFoundation.org or call the Honeywell Center Box Office at 260-563-1102.

Low Impact Fitness classes scheduled

Fitness that is both fun and free led by Mary Jo McClelland at 9:45 a.m. every Monday and Thursday, and 3 p.m. Wednesdays at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. There is no fee or registration required.

Cancer care advocate available every Tuesday

A cancer care advocate is available from 1 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday at the Winchester Senior Center, 239 Bond St. No appointment is needed. This service is supported by the Hope Foundation and provided by Cancer Services out of Fort Wayne.

Yoga classes scheduled on Tuesdays

Yoga for those who are intermediate to experienced levels have been scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. The cost is $10, and discount passes are available.

DivorceCare to meet every Tuesday

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to a press release. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Room 112 in the Wabash Friends Church, 3563 South State Road 13. Group leader and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St. on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658 or group leader Janet Quillen at 260-571-5235; email office@wabashfriends.org; or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Komets game to celebrate Wabash County March 13

Wabash County will be the MVP during the third annual Wabash County Night at the Fort Wayne Komets game at 8:05 p.m. Friday, March 13 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. While supplies last, tickets can be bought for $15 per ticket at https://groupmatics.events/event/Wabashcommunity3 or by emailing Mitch Meinholz at mitch@komets.com or by calling 260-482-6812.

Wabash Kiwanis Club's Pancake Day returns in March

The Wabash Kiwanis Club will once again host its annual Pancake Day, which is the local service organization's largest annual fundraiser. The event will take place from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 14 at the Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds, located just off of Gillen Avenue. Tickets will be $8 at the door and $7 in advance for those ages 13 years and older, and $5 at the door and $4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years and younger.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

Visit us online at www.wabashplaindealer.com

THE ROXY MOVIE THEATER

Roxy 5 Showtimes for Friday, January 10 - Thursday, January 16
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

Like A Boss (R)
Fri: 6:50, 9:30
Sat: 1:00, 3:55, 6:50, 9:30
Sun: 1:00, 3:55, 6:50 Mon-Thurs: 6:50

Underwater (PG13)
Fri: 7:15, 9:55
Sat: 1:15, 4:05, 7:15, 9:55
Sun: 1:15, 4:05, 7:15 Mon-Thurs: 7:15

Little Women (PG)
Fri: 6:40, 9:40
Sat: 12:50, 3:45, 6:40, 9:40
Sun: 12:50, 3:45, 6:40 Mon-Thurs: 6:40

Star Wars: Episode IX - The Rise of Skywalker (PG13)
Fri: 6:20, 9:10
Sat: 12:40, 3:45, 6:20, 9:10
Sun: 12:40, 3:45, 6:20
Mon-Thurs: 6:20

Jumanji: The Next Level in 2D (PG13)
Fri: 7:00, 10:05
Sat: 1:25, 4:15, 7:00, 10:05
Sun: 1:25, 4:15, 7:00
Mon-Thurs: 7:00

For more information please call
765-460-5322
or visit us online at www.roxyperu.com
Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru

5-Day Weather Summary

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Rain Likely	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Isolated Rain	Chance Rain
43 / 27	34 / 24	40 / 32	47 / 34	40 / 20

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset ..... 5:40 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 8:11 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
1/17	1/24	2/1	2/9

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 100% chance of rain, high temperature of 43°, humidity of 88%. Northeast wind 6 to 14 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 100% chance of rain, overnight low of 27°. Southwest wind 1 to 18 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 17°.

Sister's sedentary lifestyle worries sibling

Harriette Cole
Sense & Sensitivity

DEAR HARRIETTE: I went to visit my sister, who is single and retired. We talk on the phone a lot, but we haven't spent time together for a couple of years. I was surprised to see how sedentary her life has become. Basically she sits around and watches TV all day. She looks at romantic movies back-to-back from the time she wakes up until late at night. The only time she looks at anything else is when she is watching political news.

I thought I was going to lose it for the week that I was with her. I tried to get her to take walks with me. I suggested that we go to the mall or to visit friends. Nada. She just gets up, showers, cooks a few food items and sits in her chair. I am worried about her. This is no way to live. How can I get her motivated to get up and move and engage with her friends? – Motivate My Sister

DEAR MOTIVATE MY SISTER: You may not be able to motivate your sister, but it is worth it to keep trying. Get her a fitness watch that can connect to yours. Encourage her to take walks in her neighborhood at the same time that you take walks in yours. Show her how you can stay connected and stay active. Perhaps you can entice her by suggesting that you watch a movie and take a walk. If you do both together, she may get inspired to join you.

DEAR HARRIETTE: At my job, we usually get bonuses at the end of the year. This year, I did not get a bonus. We did have a modest holiday party, but that was it – at least for me.

I have worked at this job for more than 10 years. I don't know what happened. The big boss didn't say anything about us not getting bonuses, but I surely didn't get anything. I am afraid to ask my co-workers in case I'm the only one. But I wonder what happened. Should I ask my boss? – No Bonus

DEAR NO BONUS: It's worth it to ask your boss, privately, about bonuses and what happened. It's unfortunate that nothing was said to the group, given that it has been common practice for the company to give bonuses. Talk to your boss to find out what happened. Ask the questions that you want answered, including whether anyone else got a bonus and whether the company is financially healthy.

It is important for you to learn what happened for several reasons, including getting a sense of how you are regarded in the company in relation to your peers – especially if others received bonuses and you didn't. If nobody received a bonus, that could be a sign that your company is in trouble, in which case you might want to start looking for a job.

Harriette Cole is a lifestylist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette@harriettecole.com or c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

THURSDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
14-18-33-34-38
Cash4Life
07-17-42-50-51, Cash Ball: 2
Daily Three-Midday
4-5-3, SB: 7
Daily Three-Evening
4-6-6, SB: 4
Daily Four-Midday
3-0-0-2, SB: 7
Daily Four-Evening
8-6-4-7, SB: 4

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: $80 million
Powerball
Estimated jackpot: $277 million

FRIDAY'S METALS

Aluminum	.80
Copper	2.79
Lead	.86
Zinc	1.10
Gold	1,559.45
Silver	18.14
Platinum	982.80

AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: $4.00. Soybeans: $9.29.

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'It's all history now'

Pete Jones

Imagine living in the closing decades of the 19th century. Who would have been frustrated by a mild, nearly snowless winter other than girls and l boys who had found sleds under the Christmas tree? Well, nearly everyone, because those were years when the only ice available for keeping food fresh and cooling beverages was that which came from the lakes, ponds and rivers of America. Winters that failed to produce much ice were known as "open" winters.

Ice from local sources was almost always the preferred ice, simply because it was less expensive. Ice that had to be transported over a long distance was "dear" ice, costly in every way. Here in Wabash County, on the southern edge of Indiana's lake district, consumers depended upon a mix of local ice and "foreign" ice, the latter shipped from northern Indiana and from Michigan.

A few ice houses, structures designed to store ice through the summer, were scattered about the county, but ice harvesting was never a major commercial enterprise here. The few lakes and natural ponds in the northern part of the county produced ice for local needs There's no evidence that this ice was sold anyplace but on the local market.

It may well have been that some farmers near Lukens Lake, Long Lake and Round Lake formed "co-op" groups to harvest ice for their use.

But ice harvesting was a major business in some counties in northern Indiana. Firms built large structures with double walls packed with sawdust for insulation, and they sold ice throughout much of the summer in larger markets such as metropolitan Chicago as well as cities in Indiana.

Ice harvesting in Michigan and Wisconsin was of an even larger scope. Ice firms there found markets not only in Chicago but in major cities in the South where ice arrived by rail, packed in sawdust to minimize loss from melting.

But the truly big firms that engaged in ice harvesting were in New England, where there were many lakes and ponds and where winters were dependably frigid.

In Boston, Frederick Tudor was quick to grasp the potential of the natural ice industry. Over the years, learning from his successes as well as his failures, Tudor became a wealthy man who sold New England ice in countries as far away as India, where the product fetched a handsome price.

Tudor sent harvesting teams to sites throughout New England, transported the ice to Boston Harbor where it was packed in sawdust aboard ships bound for India and other foreign destinations.

In the winter of 1846 to 1847, when he was living at Walden Pond, Henry Thoreau watched from his cabin as a hundred or more of Tudor's men cut ice from the pond. Thoreau mused that eventually the ice from Walden Pond would reach the " … sweltering inhabitants of Charleston and New Orleans, of Madras and Bombay and Calcutta (who) will drink from my well."

Pete Jones writes a weekly column on local history for the Wabash Plain Dealer. He writes about people, places and events in and around Wabash County. Contact him by mail at 1160 Sunset Drive, Wabash, IN 46992 or by email at peteinwabash@comcast.net.

Texas governor to reject new refugees, first under Trump

BY NOMAAN MERCHANT
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Texas Gov. Greg Abbott said the state will reject the resettlement of new refugees, becoming the first state known to do so under a recent Trump administration order.

In a letter released Friday, Abbott wrote that Texas "has been left by Congress to deal with disproportionate migration issues resulting from a broken federal immigration system." He added that Texas has done "more than its share."

Texas has long been a leader in settling refugees, taking in more than any other state during the 2018 governmental fiscal year, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The state has large refugee populations in several of its major cities.

But the Republican governor has tried to stop refugees before, declaring in 2015 that Texas would not welcome people from Syria following the deadly Paris attacks that November. At the time, the administration of former President Barack Obama continued to send refugees to Texas and other states led by Republican governors who were opposed to it.

President Donald Trump announced in November that resettlement agencies must get written consent from state and local officials in any jurisdiction where they want to help resettle refugees beyond June 2020. Trump has already slashed the number of refugees allowed into the country for the 2020 fiscal year, which ends in September, to a historic low of 18,000. About 30,000 refugees were resettled in the U.S. during the previous fiscal year.

In his letter to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Abbott argued that the state and its non-profit organizations should instead focus on "those who are already here, including refugees, migrants, and the homeless – indeed, all Texans."

Governors in 42 other states have said they will consent to allowing in more refugees, according to the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, which works with local agencies throughout the U.S. to resettle refugees.

Krish O'Mara Vignarajah, LIRS' CEO, called Abbott's decision "a devastating blow to a longstanding legacy of refugee resettlement in the state." Local officials in Houston, Dallas, and other cities will not be able to take in refugees over the governor's objection, she said.

"There are some refugee families who have waited years in desperation to reunite with their family who will no longer be able to do so in the state of Texas," she said.

Storms with hurricane-force winds, huge hail threaten South

BY JEFF MARTIN
Associated Press

Hurricane-force wind gusts and hail the size of baseballs could accompany potent storms that also threaten to spin up tornadoes and drench the South with heavy rains, forecasters said Friday.

The national Storm Prediction Center said more than 18 million people in Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma will be at an enhanced risk of storms Friday that could include strong tornadoes and flooding rains.

The area includes several major Texas cities including Dallas, Houston and Austin.

In a briefing early Friday, the National Weather Service said the storms could bring wind gusts of up to 80 mph (129 kph) or faster, the speed of a Category 1 hurricane.

In Dallas, the city's Office of Emergency Management asked residents to bring in pets, outdoor furniture, grills, "and anything else that could be caught up in high winds to reduce the risk of flying debris."

"Trampolines are very easy to loft into the air during high winds," said Matt Hemingway, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Shreveport, Louisiana. "Anything outside that could be blown around could become a projectile."

"We're pretty much right in the crosshairs," Hemingway said of Shreveport. "Damaging winds are our biggest concern because of the widespread nature of that threat, with tornadoes not far behind that."

Such strong winds are a key concern in an area at greatest risk: A zone that includes parts of Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas, the Storm Prediction Center warned. Weather service meteorologists in northern Louisiana said that such a dire forecast for the area is only issued two to four times each year, on average.

"We could see some very strong tornadoes – possibly those that may stay on the ground for some time – not just the brief spin-up tornadoes," Hemingway said.

Tornado watches Friday covered much of Oklahoma, including Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

A large part of northeast Texas, including the Dallas-Fort Worth area, was also under a tornado watch.

In Oklahoma, multiple tornado warnings were issued Friday. No damage was immediately reported, and the main threats for the larger region were not expected until Friday afternoon and evening.

In Texas, Gov. Greg Abbott said boats, helicopters, medical and rescue teams have been placed on standby in case they are needed.

"I ask that all Texans keep those in the storm's path and all of Texas' first responders in their prayers as they deal with the effects of this storm," Abbott said in a statement.

Wicked weather also will pose a threat to Alabama and Georgia as the system moves eastward on Saturday, forecasters said.

On Alabama's Gulf Coast, Baldwin County canceled school activities including sporting events that were scheduled for Saturday.

The weather service warned of flooding and the potential for 10-foot-high waves on beaches, where northern visitors escaping the cold are a common sight during the winter.

Heavy rains also could cause flooding across the South and part of the Midwest.

The latest forecasts call for up to 4 inches (10 centimeters) of rain in parts of Texas and southeast Oklahoma, according to the National Weather Service.

Many streams already are at or near flood levels because of earlier storms, and heavy rains could lead to flash flooding across the region, forecasters said. Parts of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana were under flash flood watches on Friday in anticipation of the drenching rains.

BOOKS

Continued from A1

Wion stated the total amount of the IUW grant was "book credits" worth $62,000, divided among at least 10 different Indiana local United Ways and Funds.

"The least expensive books cost between 2.5 and 3.5 book credits," stated Wion. "Many of the books were 7 and 10 book credits each."

A total of 35 Wabash County classes, serving more than 600 children, are book recipients.

All classes received one book per student, but many received two each.

Books distributed included:

- "The Eye Book" by Dr. Suess.
- "The Foot Book" by Dr. Suess.
- "The Tooth Book" by Dr. Suess.
- "Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!" by Dr. Suess.
- "The Nose Book" by Al Perkins.
- "Go, Dog, Go!" by P. D. Eastman.
- "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed" by Eileen Christelow.
- "A Color of His Own" by Leo Lionni
- "Guess How Much I Love You" by Sam McBratney
- "Mama's Milk" by Michael Elsohn Ross
- "Good Night, Gorilla" by Peggy Rathman
- "On the Night You Were Born" by Nancy Tillman
- "First 100 Words" by Roger Priddy.

Three of the books were bi-lingual, including Spanish and English.

SEMESTER

Continued from A1

I will share stories of individuals – students and colleagues – who are doing this work," he said.

The presentation is free and open to the public. It is part of the Values, Ideas and the Arts series, which offers academic enrichment for students.

Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.

TIPS

Continued from A1

Dimes, Teratology Society and MotherToBaby.

The complete 2020 NBDPN Birth Defects Prevention Month information packet, including this year's primary prevention tips, is available online at www.birthdefects.in.gov. All materials can be printed, electronically conveyed or added to websites for distribution as needed. Additionally, resources are available through the ISDH Liv app, a mobile application for women who are pregnant, parenting or planning to be pregnant. It is available for Apple and Android users by searching for Liv Pregnancy App.

FLOOD

Continued from A1

1 p.m. Sunday and fall below flood stage around 5 a.m. Tuesday. At 17 feet is near record flood. South Mill Street and Riverside Road are flooded. This crest compares to a previous crest of 16.5 feet which occurred April 19, 2013."

Marsili said minor flooding which occurred last week contributed to the high water levels.

"It had gone down somewhat, but the water levels were on the high side still and not too far below action stage," he said.

Forecast for next week

Marsili said the forecast for next week "didn't look too bad in terms of significant additional rain."

"After that diminishes early Sunday, we do have a low chance of precipitation in the forms of rain or snow chance Tuesday. After that, Wednesday night or Thursday would look like the next chance of snow mainly, but nothing that would cause a huge, immediate response on rivers," he said.

Marsili said this type of wet winter storm was unusual for this time of year.

"We've got … something we look at which measures the amount of moisture in the atmosphere and that's kind of towards record levels," he said.

FEMA issues flood safety tips

With a forecast of heavy rainfall into the weekend, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region V encourages you to get ready for the possibility of flooding in your community, according to a press release.

Follow the instructions of state and local officials and listen to local radio or TV stations for updated emergency information related to this storm system.

"Purchasing a weather radio for your home is another way to ensure that you receive critical warning information," stated the release. "During this time of year, floodwaters can be excessively cold so be cautious, as even brief exposure can be life-threatening. Stay indoors if possible, check that your sump pump is functioning properly and ensure nothing valuable is stored on your basement floor to avoid potential damage from unexpected flooding."

For more information, visit www.ready.gov/floods.

JOINT

Continued from A1

Twenty-eight other communities and students at four Indiana colleges will be reading the book as part of "One State/One Story: 'The Year We Left Home.'"

In partnership with the Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL), the two groups are planning a full year of programming around the theme, "Explore Home."

The goal of this programming is to encourage residents of Wabash County to discuss the current challenges facing rural America and how to make Wabash County resilient through the challenges facing small towns.

The grant will provide 50 books and assorted materials like bookmarks and posters to promote the programs.

The WCPL will host a series of book discussions, beginning with Jean Thompson's "The Year We Left Home."

Additional programming will include a monthly speaker series at the Museum, a #Shelfie challenge for students kindergarten through 12th grade, a temporary exhibit at the Museum, community discussions and more.

The WCPL and Wabash County Museum will release details on upcoming events shortly.

Jean Thompson's 2011 novel offers a sweeping, multigenerational look at life in the Midwest over the past several decades. The story follows the Erickson family through the many changes affecting American life at the end of the 20th century asking readers to consider the enduring, uniting power of place – why we choose to leave and when we decide to come home. For more information, visit www.wabashmuseum.org/explorehome.

"One State/One Story: 'The Year We Left Home'" is an initiative designed by Indiana Humanities, in partnership with the Indiana State Library and Indiana Center for the Book, to encourage Hoosiers to read and engage deeply with a book as part of a statewide conversation tied to Indiana Humanities' current theme. For more information, visit www.IndianaHumanities.org/OneStateOneStory.

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Tracie Sparks

Services for Tracie Sparks, 45, of Wabash, Indiana will be 11 a.m., Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2020 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with calling 10 -11 a.m. Burial in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash.

Boeing papers show employees slid 737 Max problems past FAA

BY DAVID KOENIG and TOM KRISHER
AP Business Writers

Boeing employees raised doubts among themselves about the safety of the 737 Max, hid problems from federal regulators and ridiculed those responsible for designing and overseeing the jetliner, according to a damning batch of emails and texts released nearly a year after the aircraft was grounded over two catastrophic crashes.

The documents, made public Thursday by Boeing at the urging of Congress, are likely to fuel allegations the vaunted aircraft manufacturer put speed and cost savings ahead of safety in rolling out the Max. Boeing has been wracked by turmoil since the twin disasters and is still struggling to get the plane back in the air. Last month, it fired its CEO, Dennis Muilenburg.

In the 117 pages of internal messages, Boeing employees talked about misleading regulators about problems with the company's flight simulators. which are used to develop aircraft and then train pilots on the new equipment. In one exchange, an employee told a colleague he or she wouldn't let family members ride on a 737 Max. The colleague agreed.

In a message chain from May 2018, an employee wrote: "I still haven't been forgiven by God for covering up (what) I did last year." It was not clear exactly what the cover-up involved. The documents contain redactions and are full of Boeing jargon. The employees' names were removed.

Employees also groused about Boeing's senior management, the company's selection of low-cost suppliers, wasting money, and the Max. "This airplane is designed by clowns who in turn are supervised by monkeys," one employee wrote.

In response, Boeing said that it is confident the flight simulators work properly but that the conversations raise questions about the company's dealings with the Federal Aviation Administration in getting the machines certified.

It said it is considering disciplinary action against some employees: "These communications do not reflect the company we are and need to be, and they are completely unacceptable."

FAA spokesman Lynn Lunsford said that the simulator mentioned in the documents has been checked three times in the past six months, and "any potential safety deficiencies identified in the documents have been addressed."

The Max has been grounded worldwide since March, after two crashes five months apart – one involving Indonesia's Lion Air, the other an Ethiopian Airlines flight – killed 346 people. Investigators believe the crashes were caused when the jetliners' brand-new automated flight-control software mistakenly pushed the planes' noses down.

Boeing is still working to fix the flight-control software and other systems on the Max and persuade regulators to let it fly again. The work has taken much longer than Boeing expected, and it is unclear when the plane will return to the skies.

A lawmaker leading one of the congressional investigations into Boeing called the messages "incredibly damning."

"They paint a deeply disturbing picture of the lengths Boeing was apparently willing to go to in order to evade scrutiny from regulators, flight crews and the flying public, even as its own employees were sounding alarms internally," said Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., chairman of the House Transportation Committee.

DeFazio said the documents detail "some of the earliest and most fundamental errors in the decisions that went into the fatally flawed aircraft."

In one email message, an employee who apparently is a test pilot wrote that he crashed the first few times he flew the Max in simulator testing. The email was written in May 2015, nearly two years before the FAA approved the Max for flight in March 2017.

"You get decent at it after 3-4 tries, but the first few are ugly," the employee wrote.

In a 2015 message, a chief technical pilot said Boeing would push back hard against requirements that pilots undergo simulator training before flying the Max. One of the plane's biggest selling points, as Boeing saw it, was that 737 pilots could easily switch to the new jet with only a small amount of computer-based training, saving airlines money.

Critics have said the FAA should have required simulator training so pilots knew how to handle malfunctions with the new flight-control software, known as MCAS. Initially Boeing didn't disclose to airlines and pilots that the software was on the planes.

"I want to stress the importance of holding firm that there will not be any type of simulator training required to transition from NG (existing 737s) to MAX. Boeing will not allow that to happen. We'll go face to face with any regulator who tries to make that a requirement," the chief technical pilot wrote in a March 2017 message.

Another employee, in November 2014, made clear that the plane did things that pilots didn't expect, and it was hidden from the FAA. "We don't want to indicate to the FAA that our design conflicts with pilot expectations (esp since the pilot responses are naive and our design has been vetted in a number of demos)," one employee wrote.

After the plane was flying, one airline asked Boeing for simulator training for its pilots. As Boeing tried to put that in place, it struggled to get the simulators to work. In a May 2018, an unidentified test pilot wrote that he would have to struggle to defend the simulators to the FAA the following week.

U.S. adds 145,000 jobs; unemployment holds at 3.5%

BY JOSH BOAK
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers added 145,000 jobs in December and the unemployment rate held steady at 3.5 percent, signaling that the job market remains strong at the start of 2020 even if hiring and wage gains have slowed somewhat more than a decade into an economic expansion.

Friday's snapshot from the Labor Department showed hiring slipped from robust gains of 256,000 in November, which were given a boost by the end of a strike at General Motors. For the year, employers added an average of roughly 175,000 jobs per month, compared with about 223,250 per month in 2018.

Annual wage growth fell in December to 2.9 percent, down from an annualized average of 3.3 percent a year earlier, a possible sign that some slack remains in the labor market and that unemployment could fall even further from its current half-century low.

The picture of a slowly-but-steadily improving economy – plus low inflation – likely gives the Federal Reserve comfort in keeping interest rates low, which has been a boon to stock markets. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was largely unchanged in Friday morning trading, but it briefly reached the record-level of 29,000.

"We're starting 2020 in very good shape," said Gus Faucher, chief economist at PNC Financial Services. "We should see continued economic expansion throughout 2020 driven by consumers."

The state of the job market has become a pivotal division between President Donald Trump and his Democratic challengers. Trump can campaign on the low unemployment rate and job growth as he seeks a second term. Democrats, seeking to oust him, will point to wages that have not taken off in a meaningful for many Americans coping with highs costs for medical care and higher education.

This is the last jobs report before the Iowa caucus in February that will serve as a first step for choosing the Democratic presidential nominee.

The prospect of a stable job market, a pick-up in global growth, supportive central banks, an easing of trade tensions and U.S. economic growth of around 2 percent should be a positive for this year.

"We really have the wind at our backs going into 2020," said Julia Pollak, a labor economist at the employment marketplace ZipRecruiter.

Yet job growth has failed so far to translate into substantially better hourly pay. The pace of annual average wage growth slowed in December to 2.9 percent from 3.3 percent a year ago, a possible sign that there is still room for additional job gains despite the decade-plus expansion that has reduced the number of unemployed Americans. There is also the potential that wages jumped in January as many states adjusted their minimum wages.

Some businesses in competitive industries are already taking steps to prepare for wage competition this year. The Big Blue Swim School based in Chicago vies with day cares, learning centers and gyms for its instructors. The chain has five sites employing on average 30 people and plans to open five more schools this year and 17 in 2021. But it had to dramatically boost wages in order to attract staff for that expansion.

"We gave all of our front-line employees a 10 percent or 11 percent raise because of the fear we have about the wage pressures in the economy," said CEO Chris Kenny. "We can't meet our business goal without great staff."

The U.S. economy added 2.1 million jobs last year, down from gains of nearly 2.7 million in 2018. Hiring may have slowed because the number of unemployed people seeking work has fallen by 540,000 people over the past year to 5.75 million. With fewer unemployed people hunting for jobs, there is a potential limit on job gains.

The steady hiring growth during the expansion has contributed to gains in consumer spending. Retail sales during the crucial holiday shopping improved 3.4 percent compared to the prior year, according to Mastercard SpendingPulse. This likely contributed to a surge of hiring in retail as that sector added 41,200 jobs in December.

The leisure and hospitality sector – which includes restaurants and hotels – added another 40,000 jobs. Health care and social assistance accounted 33,900 new jobs.

Still, the report suggests a lingering weakness in manufacturing.

Factories shed 12,000 jobs in December, after the end of the GM strike produced gains of 58,000 in November. Manufacturing companies added just 46,000 jobs in all of 2019.

Manufacturing struggled last year because of trade tensions between the United States and China coupled with slower global economic growth. Safety problems at Boeing have also hurt orders for aircraft and parts.

Meghan, Harry miles apart as they start new independent life

BY JILL LAWLESS and DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON — Prince Harry and his wife Meghan were taking the first steps into their new independent life thousands of miles apart on Friday, as a friend of the couple pushed back against accusations they blindsided Queen Elizabeth II with the announcement they would be stepping down from royal duties.

As Meghan flew back to Canada, where the couple spent a six-week Christmas break out of the public eye, Harry stayed in England, where the royal family sought to contain the crisis sparked by the couple's decision to effectively quit as senior royals.

The queen moved quickly to take control of the situation, ordering royal courtiers to sort out a future role for the couple within days. British media reported Friday that the monarch, who is at her Sandringham estate in eastern England, held a conference call with her son Prince Charles and grandsons Prince William and Prince Harry.

The royal family is said to be "hurt" by Harry and Meghan's decision to step down from their royal role, with reports claiming they were not told of the statement beforehand. But the queen, Charles and William have told their teams to work with government and the couple to sort out a solution.

In the meantime, Buckingham Palace confirmed Friday that Meghan had returned to Canada, where the couple and 8-month-old son Archie spent the holiday season at a secluded luxury home on Vancouver Island. The former actress is American but has longstanding ties to Canada, having lived in Toronto while filming the popular TV show "Suits."

The crisis talks were triggered by the pair's "personal message" Wednesday evening saying they were stepping back from being senior members of Britain's royal family, would work to become financially independent and would "balance" their time between the U.K. and North America.

Harry, 35, is sixth in line to the British throne, behind his father, older brother William and his brother's three children. The former British army officer is one of the royal family's most popular members and has spent his entire life in the public eye.

Before marrying the prince in a wedding watched around the world in 2018, the 38-year-old Meghan had carved out a successful career as an actress and lifestyle "influencer" with a popular blog, the now-defunct The Tig.

A friend of the couple, broadcaster Tom Bradby, said Harry and Meghan were made aware while in Canada over the holidays that the monarchy's future focus would be on those at the top of the line of succession. An image of the queen and the three next in line to the throne – Charles, William and his son George – underscored the message of who the Windsors see as their core members.

"It had been made clear to them in their absence there was going to be a slimmed down monarchy and they weren't really a part of it," said Bradby, an ITV television anchor who filmed revealing interviews with Harry and Meghan while they were in Africa last year.

Bradby described the royal split as inevitable. He said the wish by the couple, also known as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, to leave the grind of front-line royal duty had been known, though the timing of their announcement was not.

"It's certainly not true to say the palace were blindsided by this," Bradby told ITV.

The royal rift has exposed more divisions within the British monarchy, which was rocked in November by Prince Andrew's disastrous television interview about his relationship with the late convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. Andrew, the queen's second son, has relinquished royal duties and patronages after being accused by a woman who says she was an Epstein trafficking victim who slept with the prince.

Harry and Meghan have faced a barrage of criticism from the British press over their decision. They have long complained of intrusive media coverage and accused some British media commentators of racism towards the biracial Markle. This week they slammed the country's long-standing arrangements for royal media coverage and insisted that from now on they prefer to communicate directly with the public through social media.

Many in Britain, though, expressed sympathy for the royal couple. Labour Party lawmaker Clive Lewis told backers Friday at his campaign launch that he understood their decision.

"It is extremely unfortunate and a sign of the media we have that they feel they have to do this," he said. "I know it is not the only reason. But if you look at the intrusion on their lives, if you look at the racism that Meghan Markle has experienced in the British media, then I can understand why."

The couple's statement on Wednesday left many questions unanswered – such as what they plan to do and how they will earn private income without tarnishing the royal image. At the moment, they are largely funded by Harry's father, Prince Charles, through income from his vast Duchy of Cornwall estate.

The couple said they plan to cut ties to the British taxpayer support given each year to the queen for official use, which currently covers 5 percent of the costs of running their office. But commentators have questioned whether the royal couple have misunderstood their true cost to the country, arguing their statement doesn't appear to cover some of the expenditures embedded in royal life, such as security.

Harry and Meghan have considerable assets of their own. Harry inherited an estimated $9.1 million from his late mother, Princess Diana, as well as money from his great-grandmother. Meghan has money from a successful acting career.

speak up

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://coats.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
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Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner

Daily scripture

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

1 Peter 2:11

Proclaiming Trump victorious in Iran is shortsighted and premature

The escalating confrontation between the United States and Iran paused on Wednesday, which, as President Donald Trump put it, "is a good thing for all parties concerned." Having demonstrated that it can strike Iraqi bases where U.S. troops are deployed with precision, Iran announced that it had "concluded" its response to the killing of Maj. Gen. Qasem Soleimani; Trump, reporting that no Americans were killed or injured by Tehran's missiles, set aside the sweeping attacks he had threatened on 52 sites inside Iran.

Trump's acolytes quickly proclaimed him victorious for having eliminated the architect of Iran's foreign adventurism while avoiding a more damaging response. That assessment was premature and shortsighted. Iran's strikes on U.S. interests and allies will almost certainly continue in the coming months. Unless the Trump administration quickly steps up its diplomatic game, what Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called his ultimate aim – the removal of the United States from the Middle East – could soon be realized in Iraq and Syria.

Then there is Iran's nuclear program, which the regime announced it would step up in the aftermath of Soleimani's killing. In his White House address Wednesday, Trump asserted that he would "never let" Iran acquire a nuclear weapon. But, having scrapped the deal that curtailed Iran's program and plunged into confrontation with the regime, he has articulated no coherent strategy for stopping additional Iranian enrichment of uranium – other than calling on European allies and Russia to give up their attempts to save the pact.

Trump ought to embrace the pause in hostilities as an opportunity to begin serious negotiations with the Islamic republic. That is the course favored not only by a majority of Americans but also by Mideast allies such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar, which have been pressing for restraint. Though he nodded to the idea, saying the United States was "ready to embrace peace," Trump also said he would intensify already massive sanctions on Iran. That campaign of "maximum pressure" has failed to bring about the new nuclear negotiations Trump says he wants, much less the regime collapse or capitulation his more hawkish advisers hope for. But it virtually ensures that Iranian responses such as last year's attacks on Persian Gulf shipping and Saudi oil fields will continue.

Tehran will meanwhile press its advantage in Baghdad, where Iraqi legislators furious over two U.S. military operations in its territory in less than a week took a nonbinding vote Sunday to expel the 5,000 U.S. troops in the country.

Abetted by U.S. incompetence – the dispatch of a letter announcing a withdrawal that was later termed a mistake – acting prime minister Adel Abdul Mahdi is pressing the case. Trump only helped him with a foolish threat to impose sanctions on Iraq; in his address Wednesday, Trump sounded as if he were arguing the case for a U.S. retreat, saying he wanted NATO to become more involved in the region and that "we do not need Middle East oil."

There was reason for relief Wednesday that the United States and Iran had avoided a plunge into full-scale war. But Trump's manifest lack of clear goals or strategy in the Middle East, combined with his readiness to launch strikes or order troop movements on impulse, is cause for continued alarm.

This editorial was first published in The Washington Post.

A throwback candidate for a throwback state

Gene Lyons

The thing about Joe Biden, as the all-important, ultimately trivial Iowa caucuses loom, is that hardly anybody seriously dislikes him. Not really. Oh, it's possible to find dissenters here and there, mainly people who affix slogans such as "neoliberal" and who think that people who disagree with their opinions must be stupid and immoral.

"Deplorables," if you will.

But most voters respond warmly to the former vice president. And they like Biden in large part because he appears to like them back. Writing in The Atlantic, Johns Hopkins political scientist Yascha Mounk puts it this way: "Maybe it's not that voters prefer the candidate they would rather have a beer with; maybe they prefer the candidate who would rather have a beer with them."

Biden appears to like almost everybody. When campaigning, he has to be restrained from hugging total strangers. He whispers in voters' ears, listens to their confidences, takes down phone numbers, promises to call them back, and then actually follows through.

Sure, he sounds like a throwback, as Timothy Egan points out, with his talk of "record players and malarkey and pushup challenges."

Indeed, Biden strongly reminds me of my late father, an Irish-Catholic working stiff from the Northeast with an assertive personality and a terrific smile. "Malarkey" was one of his favorite words, Irish-American slang dating to the 1920s. It basically means "nonsense."

Or "donkey dust," another phrase he liked.

However, if my father were alive, he'd be 108. So yes, as I've written previously, Joe Biden's too old to be president. And so is Bernie Sanders. Some people think Biden's lost a step. But then it's not my decision, is it?

(As for pushup challenges: Donald J. Trump couldn't do even one. He'd need a forklift to get back to his feet.)

Anyway, here's the thing: The whole state of Iowa is a throwback, not to mention its outsized role in our absurd, anachronistic way of choosing presidential candidates. From the Mississippi to the Missouri, it's populated by rural and small-town Midwestern communities of a kind they aren't making anymore: approximately 91 percent white.

As somebody who until quite recently lived down a gravel road in a county with more cows than people, I've no issues with the hayseed lifestyle. Indeed, I prefer it. But it's not much like today's America.

Maybe that's a good thing right now. See, Iowa's a lot like Minnesota, Wisconsin and large parts of Michigan – crucial Midwestern swing states Democrats need to win to prevent Trump from slipping back into the White House on another Russian-sponsored Electoral College fluke.

Biden's cornball folksiness plays with Iowa voters precisely because it's real – a quality shared by Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, who would be my candidate if I had one. (I've never participated in politics at any level.) She too comes across as what my wife calls "real people."

Klobuchar makes me smile. I like her self-deprecating humor, even if she's said to have a temper. Her memoir is called "The Senator Next Door." I like how Klobuchar talks about politics – putting together coalitions and passing bills – as opposed to bickering about the details of plans that have zero chance of being enacted by Congress.

She wins counties Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton didn't.

I like it that Klobuchar's a wiseguy who made crybaby Brett Kavanaugh look foolish when he tried to engage her on the subject of blackout drinking. She'd eat Trump alive in a debate.

Everything else being equal, a Biden/Klobuchar ticket would be hard to beat, if somewhat blindingly white, ergo highly improbable.

Reporters covering Iowa have found Democratic voters in a distinctly pragmatic mood. According to The Washington Post's Michael Scherer: "Strategists say they have been surprised by how fluid voters in Iowa have been in moving between candidates with very different ideological profiles."

That's certainly how Democrats I know are thinking. In what most see as an existential crisis for our democracy, they're feeling more practical than ideological. The big question isn't who can describe a platonically perfect health care plan, but who can win?

Based upon his attempts to frame Biden in Ukraine, the president evidently fears him. And with war looming against Iran, it may also be significant that a November 2019 poll found that Biden was most trusted by Democrats to handle foreign policy by 48 percent, to Bernie Sanders' 14 percent.

But for now, it's all about Iowa, more like the opening game of the season than the World Series.

Then it's on to New Hampshire, 93 percent white, Boston suburbanites many of them, with a history of saddling the party with liberal idealists unelectable outside New England.

And then come Nevada, South Carolina and the rest in rapid succession, as this seemingly interminable Democratic primary season ends rather more suddenly than many of us may be prepared for.

Arkansas Times columnist Gene Lyons is a National Magazine Award winner and co-author of "The Hunting of the President" (St. Martin's Press, 2000). You can email Lyons at eugenelyons2@yahoo.com.

Trump's obsession with Obama spurred Iranian crisis

Eugene Robinson

President Trump's Ahab-like obsession with erasing the legacy of Barack Obama almost set the Middle East on fire this week. It may still.

There is no better explanation for Trump's rash decision to assassinate Iranian Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, especially in light of the president's weird, self-congratulatory, self-contradictory speech Wednesday purporting to declare an end to the crisis he created. The whole thing seems as much about Trump's Obama fixation as anything else.

The tell was Trump's false and slanderous claim that "the missiles fired last night at us and our allies were paid for with the funds made available by the last administration."

Seriously? Does Obama take up that much space inside Trump's head? Does the president stay up late at night sticking pins in an Obama voodoo doll?

After some predictable boasting and chest-thumping, Trump laid out what he wants: An end to Iran's progress toward a nuclear weapon, in exchange for relief from crippling economic sanctions. But that happens to be precisely what Obama had already achieved, with the comprehensive and highly effective nuclear deal that Trump pulled the United States out of.

The true Iran hawks – such as former national security adviser John Bolton, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, and Sens. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and Marco Rubio, R-Fla. – want much more. Bolton has already made clear that he believes the U.S. goal should be regime change. The hawks want, at a minimum, an end to Iran's use of proxy forces throughout the Middle East and its ambitions to be a regional great power.

But Trump doesn't have the patience or the stomach to seek, much less achieve, all of that. He demonstrated once again this week that he has no interest in being a wartime president. After the Iranian ballistic missiles fell harmlessly while U.S. troops waited safely in their bunkers, Trump quickly decided not to retaliate against Iran's retaliation. As soon as he saw a door marked "EXIT," he took it.

It's not possible to take Trump's aversion to war for granted, however, because seemingly everything is subsidiary to the erase-Obama imperative. Clearly, it's not about policy. It must be about something else.

You'll recall that the vehicle Trump used to transform himself from a harmless New York character into a malevolent political force was birtherism – the absurd, fictional and racist claim that the nation's first African American president was not actually born in the United States. I have met Trump supporters who still believe in this thoroughly debunked fairy tale.

Obama's election and reelection made a powerful statement about the nation and its growing diversity. Trump, however, portrayed that statement as a threat. Whether he genuinely felt a sense of racial panic, or just pretended to do so, is irrelevant. That's how he played it, and he rode Obama-hatred to the White House.

It is tragic that Trump has tried so hard to demolish the Affordable Care Act, apparently because it is popularly known as Obamacare. It is heartbreaking that he has tried so hard to roll back the Obama administration's environmental regulations, though that may have more to do with Trump's bizarre denial of climate change. And I almost laughed out loud Wednesday when Trump, after so often scoffing at Obama's faith in multilateralism, called on NATO to "become much more involved in the Middle East process."

As with so much about Trump, the whole Obama thing would be amusing if he did not have the power to make life-or-death decisions.

Repercussions from the Soleimani killing are not over, by a long shot. Hawks who are crowing about how "deterrence works" ignore the fact that the Iranian regime can be both patient and strategic. Trump has been talked into sending 18,000 more troops to the Middle East since last spring – creating a target-rich environment for Iran's proxy forces, should the decision be made to stage some kind of attack.

In his mania to be the anti-Obama, Trump appears to have set a hair trigger: Any U.S. casualties caused directly or indirectly by Iran will prompt a military response. The government in Tehran might decide to call his bluff, and that could lead to all-out war.

Meanwhile, Iran is closer to being able to make a nuclear weapon now than when Trump took office, because of his foolish abandonment of the nuclear deal. The mullahs might even decide that the only way to ensure their safety is to race to build a bomb – which could also lead to all-out war.

I don't like being alarmist. But I'm alarmed.

Eugene Robinson's email address is eugenerobinson@washpost.com.

U.S. dismisses Iraq request to work on a troop withdrawal plan

BY SAMYA KULLAB and QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's caretaker prime minister asked Washington to work out a road map for an American troop withdrawal, but the U.S. State Department on Friday bluntly rejected the request, saying the two sides should instead talk about how to "recommit" to their partnership.

Thousands of anti-government protesters turned out in the capital and southern Iraq, many calling on both Iran and America to leave Iraq, reflecting their anger and frustration over the two rivals – both allies of Baghdad – trading blows on Iraqi soil.

The request from Prime Minister Adel Abdul-Mahdi pointed to his determination to push ahead with demands for U.S. troops to leave Iraq, stoked by the American drone strike on Jan. 3 that killed top Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani. In a phone call Thursday night, he told U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo that recent U.S. actions were unacceptable breaches of Iraqi sovereignty and a violation of their security agreements, his office said.

He asked Pompeo to "send delegates to Iraq to prepare a mechanism" to carry out the Iraqi Parliament's resolution on withdrawing foreign troops, according to the statement.

"The prime minister said American forces had entered Iraq and drones are flying in its airspace without permission from Iraqi authorities, and this was a violation of the bilateral agreements," the statement added.

Abdul-Mahdi signaled he was standing by the push for U.S. forces to leave despite signs of de-escalation by Tehran and Washington after Iran retaliated for Soleimani's death by firing missiles that hit two Iraqi bases where American troops are based but caused no casualties.

Iraqis feel furious and helpless at being caught in the middle of the fighting. Abdul-Mahdi has said he rejects all violations of Iraqi sovereignty, including both the Iranian and U.S. strikes.

The State Department flatly dismissed Abdul-Mahdi's request, saying U.S. troops are crucial for the fight against the Islamic State group and it would not discuss removing them.

Pompeo indicated Friday the troops would remain, adding that the U.S. would continue its mission to help train Iraqi security forces and counter the Islamic State group.

"We are happy to continue the conversation with the Iraqis about what the right structure is," Pompeo said at the White House during an unrelated appearance.

"Our mission set there is very clear. We've been there to perform a training mission to help the Iraqi security forces be successful and to continue the campaign against ISIS, to continue the counter-Daesh campaign," he said, using alternate acronyms for the militant group.

"We're going to continue that mission but, as times change and we get to a place where we can deliver upon what I believe and what the president believes is our right structure with fewer resources dedicated to that mission, we will do so," Pompeo said.

He said a NATO team was at the State Department working on a plan "to get burden- sharing right in the region, as well, so that we can continue the important missions to protect and defend, and keep the American people safe" while reducing costs and burdens borne by the U.S.

Earlier in the day, Pompeo's spokeswoman Morgan Ortagus said any delegation sent to Iraq would be dedicated to "discussing how to best recommit to our strategic partnership - not to discuss troop withdrawal, but our right, appropriate force posture in the Middle East."

Iraqi lawmakers passed a resolution Sunday to oust U.S. troops, following the U.S. drone strike that killed Soleimani and senior Iraqi militia commander Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis at Baghdad's airport. The nonbinding vote put the responsibility on the government to formally request a withdrawal. Abdul-Mahdi urged lawmakers at the time to take "urgent measures" to ensure the removal of the troops.

In speaking to Pompeo, Abdul-Mahdi stopped short of requesting an immediate withdrawal, allowing time to draw up a strategy and timeline for departure.

In its initial readout of the call, the State Department made no mention of Abdul-Mahdi's request on the troops. It said Pompeo, who initiated the call, reiterated the U.S. condemnation of the Iranian missile strikes and underscored that President Donald Trump "has said the United States will do whatever it takes to protect the American and Iraqi people and defend our collective interests."

There are some 5,200 U.S. troops in Iraq assisting and providing training to Iraqi security counterparts to fight IS. An American pullout could deeply set back efforts to crush remnants of the group amid concerns of its resurgence during the political turmoil.

Both the U.S. and Iran have fought to defeat IS, and neither wants to see it stage a comeback.

IS gloated in its first comments on Soleimani's slaying, saying his death "pleased the hearts of believers," in an editorial in the group's al-Nabaa online newspaper. It carried a photo of Soleimani and al-Muhandis, saying that "God brought their end at the hands of their allies."

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State David Schenker said future talks between Baghdad and Washington were expected to focus on the nature of their strategic relationship,

As Iran and U.S. take step back from the brink, Canada grieves

BY ROB GILLIES and TIM SULLIVAN
Associated Press

TORONTO — The worst had passed, it seemed, and the United States and Iran no longer appeared poised at the edge of war.

"All is well!" President Donald Trump tweeted Tuesday night, days after a U.S. drone strike killed Iran's most powerful general, and Iran, after a barrage of missiles, had signaled it was stepping back from further escalation.

But 27 seconds before Trump's tweet, commercial flight trackers had lost contact with a Ukrainian International Airlines jet that had just taken off from Tehran's main airport. On board were 176 people, including 138 passengers on their way to Canada and at least 63 Canadian citizens and 11 Ukrainians. The plane, which never made a mayday call, slammed moments later into the ground.

Everyone on board died. They were students, newlyweds, doctors and parents. The youngest was a 1-year-old girl, Kurdia Molani, who was flying back home with her parents to the Toronto suburb of Ajax.

By late Thursday, Western leaders said that Iran had most likely shot down the jetliner with a surface-to-air missile – probably by accident. The loss of so many lives transformed the U.S.-Iran confrontation, which had seemed to conclude with limited bloodshed.

Instead, what had begun with a drone attack on Gen. Qassem Soleimani's motorcade at the Baghdad airport had suddenly rippled outward until dozens of Iranian-Canadians, dozens of Iranian students studying in Canada, were dead.

"The community is overwhelmed with mourning and sadness," said Payman Parseyan, a prominent Iranian-Canadian in western Canada, counting through the names of the friends he had lost. There was Pedram Mousavi and his wife Mojgan Daneshmand, both of them engineering professors, and their two daughters, Daria and Dorina Mousavi. There was Dr. Shekoufeh Choupannejad, an obstetrician-gynecologist, and her two daughters, Saba and Sara Saadat. It seemed impossible.

Some in Canada quickly blamed Trump for the disaster.

"This is insane. Sickening. Imagine having a family member on that plane," said Rob Kent, a 42-year-old Toronto resident. "One man, and only one, is responsible for those deaths. And he will never face consequences for them."

But Parseyan wasn't so sure.

"It takes two to tango," he said. "It's not hard to see the downing as a result of the escalation between the two countries. However, Iran is responsible for its own military defense equipment. While it has the right to defend itself, as it should to protect its own people, it should also have the responsibility with that right to make sure their defensive systems aren't targeting civilian aircraft."

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who has at times had a rocky relationship with Trump, was careful not to say the U.S. strike was responsible for what happened.

"I think it is too soon to be drawing conclusions or assigning blame or responsibility in whatever proportions," he told reporters. But, he said, an accidental missile strike would compound the grief of so many people.

"My thoughts instantly went to how much harder this must make it for those families who are experiencing just a terrible amount of grief right now," he said.

Trudeau met privately with families of some of the victims on Friday.

Many in Canada simply struggled to make sense of the disaster.

"If something like this happened as an accident, it's much easier to take in than when you hear that maybe it got shot," said Nina Saeidpour, a Calgary real estate agent whose friend Kasra Saati was among the victims. "We're just trying to figure out what happened."

Ukrainian flights out of Tehran are often full of Iranian-Canadians and Iranian students studying in Canada, particularly after the long holiday break. Going back and forth via Kyiv is one of the most affordable routes between the two countries, and avoids stopovers in the United States, which is difficult for most Iranians.

At least 17 Canadian universities have confirmed that they lost students, professors or researchers.

Until the crash, the killing of Soleimani had seemed to end fairly quietly – at least for the U.S. A stampede at the general's funeral, jammed with mourners, had left 56 people dead and Iranian missile strikes against Iraqi bases housing American troops had injured no one. Iran appeared to have carefully calibrated the missile attacks to avoid causing further U.S. retaliation, giving early warning to its Iraqi allies to avoid casualties.

Iran crash and missile claims put Ukraine president in bind

BY JIM HEINTZ
Associated Press

MOSCOW — As allegations swirl and denials clash over what caused the fatal crash of a Ukrainian airliner in Iran this week, Ukraine's president is caught in the middle.

President Volodymyr Zelenskiy on Friday appealed to Western countries to present evidence for their claims a day earlier that an Iranian anti-aircraft missile downed the plane, killing all 176 people on board.

If that made Zelenskiy sound uninformed amid strident claims from all sides, he also appeared to be following an astute strategy for damage control. Ukraine knows all too well how an air catastrophe can stir up a maelstrom of rumors and disinformation.

The plane crash Wednesday near Tehran is the third time in 20 years that Ukraine has been linked to the violent destruction of a civilian plane, allegedly or demonstrably due to a missile strike. In each case, denials, unfounded speculation and political posturing clouded the search for the truth.

And the crisis has erupted as Ukraine – under the new leadership of a man with no political experience – is already entangled in other international and U.S. political disputes.

Zelenskiy has found himself mired in the turmoil around President Donald Trump's impeachment, which is based on allegations that Trump tried to pressure Ukraine into investigating Democratic opponent Joe Biden. Trump and his Republican political allies have pushed an opposing narrative that he wanted to investigate corruption in Ukraine, and by extension, that Ukraine, not just Russia, interfered in the 2016 U.S. elections.

The first airline disaster to ensnare Ukraine was on Oct. 4, 2001, when a Russian airliner disappeared over the Black Sea en route from Israel carrying 78 people. Coming just a few weeks after the 9/11 attacks in the United States, speculation on the cause initially focused on terrorism.

Within a day, U.S. officials said the plane likely was hit accidentally by a Ukrainian anti-aircraft missile fired during military exercises. Both Ukraine and Russia initially rejected that claim. But the rejection by Russian President Vladimir Putin was based on what he had been told by Ukraine – at that time a Russian ally – and Ukraine several weeks later acknowledged that it was at fault.

The incident, and Ukraine's denials and incorrect claims, were a significant embarrassment to the country, which fired its air defense chief and paid more than $15 million in compensation to victims' families.

The next disaster killed far more people and sparked far more contention, pitting Ukraine against Russia with competing claims of responsibility.

A Malaysian Airlines jet was shot down on July 17, 2014, over eastern Ukraine where Ukrainian forces were at war with Russian-backed separatists. All 298 people aboard died.

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Quick Hits

Brian McBride hired as GM of US men's national team

CHICAGO (AP) — Former U.S. forward Brian McBride has been hired to succeed Earnie Stewart as general manager of the American men's national soccer team.

Now 47, McBride had 30 goals in 95 appearances for the U.S. from 1993-2006. He played for Wolfsburg, Columbus, Preston North End, Everton, Fulham and Chicago. He was so popular in London that Fulham named a bar at Craven Cottage after him.

Stewart, also a former national team player, was hired as the GM of the men's team in June 2018, then promoted last August to sporting director of the U.S. Soccer Federation.

High school basketball coach accused of assaulting heckler

LINCOLNTON, N.C. (AP) — A winless North Carolina high school basketball coach assaulted a heckler who raised his hand to admit he had made the comment, a sheriff's office said.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office said in a news rel ease posted to social media that one of its deputies working security at the game heard the man yell at Chadwick Rock Wright, 48, after the West Lincoln boys lost their 13th game of the season Tuesday night.

The deputy said a man in a group of people raised his hand and said he made the remark. Wright ran into the stands and hit the man in the head before the two began wrestling in the stands, according to the deputy. A woman then began taunting the coach and was pulled into the scuffle, authorities said.

The sheriff's office said Wright is charged with one misdemeanor count each of assault on a female, simple assault and battery and disorderly conduct. He was released on a $1,500 secured bond.

Submit your news

The *Plain Dealer* is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3:00 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:

E-mailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.

Mailed into *Plain Dealer,* 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Organizations or individuals e-mailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The *Plain Dealer* reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

FILE PHOTO

FASTBREAK: Northfield's Kearston Stout drives down the court on a fastbreak during the Norse's game against Bluffton earlier this week.

Norse knock off Vikings on road

BY JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

Conference titles may not be won in January but in the case of the Northfield girls' basketball team, they certainly could have been lost.

The Norse traveled to face Tippecanoe Valley on Thursday with the stakes at their highest. While Northfield held a loss in Three Rivers Conference (TRC) play this season, the Vikings were unbeaten through their first four conference games and 12-3 overall the year. A loss by the two-time defending TRC champions would all but eliminate them from contention for the title while leaving the Vikings as the lone undefeated TRC side.

However, in its biggest game of the season, the Norse answered the bell. After a back-and-forth first half, the Norse used a big third quarter to open up a double-digit lead before surviving a late rally from the hosts to earn a 54-49.

Coming out of the locker room up 21-20, Northfield scored eight of the first 10 points of the period to take the biggest lead of either side on the night after a pair of free throws from Fayth Leming at 29-22.

A three-pointer from Jillian Walls and a basket from Emma Craig pulled Tippecanoe Valley back within four points at 31-27 but Northfield responded with the next six points on a layup from Kearston Stout, a three-pointer from Emma Hoover and a free throw from Stout as the lead touched 37-27, giving Northfield control of the game.

The Vikings would cut the lead down to seven points by the end of the quarter but Northfield never let the lead dip below two possessions through the opening stages of the fourth. After the Vikings cut the lead to four points at 41-37, Northfield again used a big run to open the lead back up to nine points, a Stout layup with 2:26 left forcing a Viking timeout with the guests up 48-39.

Tippecanoe Valley's last hurrah came in response as they pieced together a 7-1 run aided by free throw woes from the Norse. After Hoover split a pair of free throws to give Northfield a 49-44 lead with 49.9 seconds left, Sydney Wagner cut the lead down to three points with two free throws with 42.2 seconds left.

The Vikings had a chance to tie the game after Kenzie Baer missed two freebies with 37.4 seconds left but the Vikings' game-tying effort was well off the mark and rebounded by Addi Baker. The junior forward would be fouled and knock down her free throws with 24 seconds left as the Norse added cushion to its lead before eventually walking away with the five-point win.

While the Norse controlled the second half, neither side seized control of the game in the first half. Tippecanoe Valley looked most likely to in the early stages after scoring the first four points while also drawing two fouls on Baker, forcing her to the bench.

Instead of extending its lead, though, the Vikings allowed the Norse to tie the game by the end of the period. Emily Pennington stepped in for Baker and converted a pair of layups while Hoover buried a three, sending the two sides into the second period tied at 9-9.

Hoover gave the Norse a lead by opening the quarter with a three, one of three in the first half. Tippecanoe Valley eventually battled back, tying the game at 18-18 on a three-pointer from Emma Craig. Hayley Backus gave the hosts a 20-18 lead but Stout sent the Norse into the locker room with a one-point lead with a three-pointer with just over a minute left in the half.

Hoover finished with 15 points to lead all scorers while Stout added 13. Baker finished with 10, seven of those coming in the second half. For Tippecanoe Valley, Craig finished with 12 points while Wagner and Walls had 11 points apiece.

Northfield now leads the TRC with a 5-1 record. Tippecanoe Valley falls to 4-1 in the TRC, matching Rochester's record.

Overall, the Norse are 12-4 on the season and have 10 of the last 11 games.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

No. 19 Michigan survives double overtime against Purdue

Boilermakers fall to 9-7 after 84-78 loss on Thursday evening

BY MATT SCHOCH
Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Juwan Howard knew he was getting a hard-nosed point guard when he took over as coach at his alma mater.

In Michigan's senior point guard Zavier Simpson, he also saw some of himself.

Howard used astrology to explain his bond with Simpson, who scored 22 points and made big shots late to lift the 19th-ranked Wolverines to an 84-78 victory over Purdue in a double-overtime thriller on Thursday night.

"We both are Aquarius," Howard said, adding that Simpson's mom and Howard's grandmother were both interested in astrology. "We both can be bull-headed, I will also add stubborn.

"We also both are tough-nosed competitors. But the beauty of it is that we both trust one another."

Simpson did not shoot for more than 18 minutes to start the game but took charge on offense when it was needed.

To avoid a third straight Big Ten loss, the Wolverines (11-4, 2-2) overcame a monstrous effort from Purdue sophomore Trevion Williams, who had career highs with 36 points and 20 rebounds but missed a shot to win at the regulation buzzer.

Williams outplayed Michigan's Jon Teske, making 16 of 28 field goals, while Howard refused to send a double-team to help his senior center.

"I just tried to get him off his feet, get him in the air, get him jumping a little bit," Williams said. "Once I got a couple to fall, I started getting more

See **PURDUE** / Page B3

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Orgeron's success fueling pride on LSU bayou

National title game is set for Monday night

BY BRETT MARTEL
AP Sports Writer

LAROSE, La. — A cardboard likeness of Ed Orgeron, wearing a purple polo with gold LSU lettering, stands in an entertainment parlor at the home of one of his childhood friends.

The life-size cutout was displayed a couple years ago at a celebration dubbed "Coach O Day" in the predominantly Cajun south Louisiana community where Orgeron grew up, a place where everyone seems to have a nickname and shares stories in the same Cajun French-influenced accent synonymous with the raspy-voiced coach.

Don "Noochie" Adams now has the keepsake in his house, which is surrounded by towering cypress trees and sprawling live oaks just down the street from Bayou Lafourche — a slow moving waterway where

See **LSU** / Page B3

ON THE AIR

AUTO RACING
8 p.m.
NBCSN: Monster Energy AMA Supercross: Round 2, St. Louis
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
12 p.m.
BTN: Rutgers at Illinois
ESPN: Alabama at Kentucky
ESPN2: Cincinnati at Central Florida
FOX: Ohio State at Indiana
FS1: Georgetown at Villanova
12:30 p.m.
NBCSN: Massachusetts at Dayton
1 p.m.
CBS: Baylor at Kansas
SECN: South Carolina at Tennessee
2 p.m.
CBSSN: Rhode Island at Virginia Commonwealth
ESPN: Louisville at Notre Dame
ESPN2: Oklahoma State at Texas Christian
FOX: Creighton at Xavier
2:15 p.m.
BTN: Wisconsin at Penn State
2:30 p.m.
NBCSN: St. Joseph's at Davidson
3:30 p.m.
SECN: Texas A&M at Vanderbilt
4 p.m.
CBSSN: Marquette at Seton Hall
ESPN: Syracuse at Virginia
ESPN2: Houston at Tulsa
4:30 p.m.
BTN: Nebraska at Northwestern
6 p.m.
ACCN: Georgia Tech at Boston College
CBSSN : Western Kentucky at Middle Tennessee State
ESPN: Georgia at Auburn
ESPN2: Texas Tech at West Virginia
PAC-12N: Washington State at Stanford
SECN: Arkansas at Mississippi
8 p.m.
ACCN: Wake Forest at Duke
CBSSN: Nevada (Reno) at Utah St
ESPN: Mississippi St at Louisiana St
ESPN2: Oklahoma at Iowa State
ESPNU: Santa Clara at St. Mary's
PAC-12N: Washington at California
8:30 p.m.
SECN: Florida at Missouri
10 p.m.
ESPN2: Southern California at UCLA
10:30 p.m.
PAC-12N: Arizona State at Oregon
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)
12 p.m.
CBSSN: Providence at Creighton
3:30 p.m.
PAC-12N: Washington State at Washington
COLLEGE FOOTBALL
9:30 a.m.
ACCN / ESPNU: College Football Playoff: Media Day, New Orleans
12 p.m.
ABC: FCS: North Dakota vs. James Madison, Championship, Frisco, Texas
COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN'S)
6:30 p.m.
ESPNU: Oklahoma at Arizona State
COLLEGE HOCKEY (MEN'S)
7 p.m.
BTN: Minnesota at Michigan State
GOLF
7 p.m.
GOLF: PGA Tour: The Sony Open, Third Round, Honolulu
11 p.m.
GOLF: EPGA Tour: The Hong Kong Open, Final Round, Hong Kong
NFL FOOTBALL
4:35 p.m.
NBC: NFC Divisional Playoff: Minnesota at San Francisco
8:15 p.m.
CBS: AFC Divisional Playoff: Tennessee at Baltimore
NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m.
NHLN: Boston at NY Islanders
SKIING
11:30 p.m.
NBCSN: FIS World Cup: Men's Giant Slalom, Adelboden, Switzerland (taped)
SOCCER (MEN'S)
12:30 p.m.
NBC: Premier League: Liverpool at Tottenham
TENNIS
11 p.m.
TENNIS: WTA: The Brisbane International, Singles Final, Brisbane, Queensland
6 a.m. (Sunday)
TENNIS: ATP/WTA: ATP Cup Day 10 Finals; Auckland-WTA Final; Adelaide-ATP Early Rounds

Sunday, Jan. 12
AHL HOCKEY
3 p.m.
NHLN: Cleveland at Lehigh Valley
AUTO RACING
6:30 p.m.
NBCSN: Dakar Rally 2020: Stage 7, Riyadh to Wadi Al Dawasir, Saudi Arabia (taped)
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
12 p.m.
CBS: Michigan State at Purdue
CBSSN: Wichita St at Connecticut
1 p.m.
BTN: Michigan at Minnesota
4 p.m.
ESPN2: Memphis at South Florida
4:30 p.m.
NBCSN: Rhode Island at Davidson
6 p.m.
ACCN: Pittsburgh at Miami
ESPNU: Utah at Colorado
10 p.m.
FS1: Arizona at Oregon State
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)
12 p.m.
ACCN: Syracuse at Miami
ESPN2: Maryland at Michigan
SECN: Georgia at Tennessee
2 p.m.
ACCN: Virginia at Boston College
CBSSN: George Washington at Fordham
ESPN2: Central Florida at Cincinnati
ESPNU: Oklahoma State at Baylor
PAC-12N: Oregon at Arizona
3 p.m.
BTN: Minnesota at Illinois
SECN: Missouri at Arkansas
4 p.m.
ACCN: North Carolina State at Notre Dame
CBSSN: Virginia Commonwealth at Saint Louis
PAC-12N: Oregon St at Arizona St
5 p.m.
BTN: Indiana at Iowa
SECN: South Carolina at Vanderbilt
6 p.m.
CBSSN: South Florida at Tulsa
7 p.m.
BTN: Purdue at Northwestern
8 p.m.
PAC-12N: Stanford at California
COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN'S)
6 p.m.
PAC-12N: Boise State at UCLA
GOLF
2 p.m.
GOLF: Korn Ferry Tour: The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic, First Round, Great Exuma, Bahamas
6 p.m.
GOLF: PGA Tour: The Sony Open, Final Round, Honolulu
NFL FOOTBALL
3:05 p.m.
CBS: AFC Divisional Playoff: Houston at Kansas City
6:40 p.m.
FOX: NFC Divisional Round: Seattle at Green Bay
NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m.
NHLN: Toronto at Florida
SKIING
12 a.m. (Monday)
NBCSN: FIS Alpine World Cup: Men's Slalom, Adelboden, Switzerland (taped)
SOCCER (MEN'S)
8:55 a.m.
ESPN2: Serie A: SPAL at Fiorentina
NBCSN : Premier League: Watford at Bournemouth
11:25 a.m.
NBCSN: Premier League: Manchester City at Aston Villa
TENNIS
6 a.m.
TENNIS: ATP/WTA: ATP Cup Day 10 Finals; Auckland-WTA Final; Adelaide-ATP Early Rounds
8 a.m.
TENNIS: WTA: The Auckland Open, Final, Auckland, New Zealand
9:30 a.m.
TENNIS: WTA: The Brisbane International, Final, Brisbane, Australia
6 p.m.
TENNIS: ATP/WTA: Auckland-ATP, Adelaide-ATP/WTA & Hobart-WTA Early Rounds
6 a.m. (Monday)
TENNIS: ATP/WTA: Auckland-ATP, Adelaide-ATP/WTA & Hobart-WTA Early Rounds

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pc	GB
Boston	25	11	.694	—
Toronto	25	13	.658	1
Philadelphia	25	14	.641	1½
Brooklyn	16	20	.444	9
New York	10	28	.263	16
Southeast Division				
Miami	27	10	.730	—
Orlando	18	20	.474	9½
Charlotte	15	25	.375	13½
Washington	12	25	.324	15
Atlanta	8	30	.211	19½
Central Division				
Milwaukee	33	6	.846	—
Indiana	23	15	.605	9½
Detroit	14	25	.359	19
Chicago	13	25	.342	19½
Cleveland	11	27	.289	21½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
Houston	25	12	.676	—
Dallas	23	14	.622	2
San Antonio	16	20	.444	8½
Memphis	16	22	.421	9½
New Orleans	13	25	.342	12½
Northwest Division				
Denver	26	11	.703	—
Utah	25	12	.676	1
Oklahoma City	22	16	.579	4½
Portland	16	23	.410	11
Minnesota	15	22	.405	11
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	30	7	.811	—
L.A. Clippers	26	12	.684	4½
Sacramento	15	23	.395	15½
Phoenix	14	23	.378	16
Golden State	9	30	.231	22

Thursday's Games
Philadelphia 109, Boston 98
Cleveland 115, Detroit 112, OT
Minnesota 116, Portland 102
Oklahoma City 113, Houston 92
Friday's Games
Atlanta at Washington
New Orleans at New York
Miami at Brooklyn
Indiana at Chicago
San Antonio at Memphis
Charlotte at Utah
Orlando at Phoenix
L.A. Lakers at Dallas
Milwaukee at Sacramento
Golden State at L.A. Clippers
Saturday's Games
Minnesota at Houston, 5 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Boston, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Denver, 9 p.m.
Milwaukee at Portland, 10 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Miami at New York, 3:30 p.m.
Utah at Washington, 3:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
Golden State at Memphis, 6 p.m.
San Antonio at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Charlotte at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Denver, 8 p.m.

NBA Leaders
Through Thursday

Scoring	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Harden, HOU	36	397	386	1363	37.9
Antetokopo, MIL	36	400	228	1088	30.2
Doncic, DAL	33	318	239	976	29.6
Young, ATL	35	328	243	1023	29.2
Beal, WAS	31	293	197	862	27.8
Davis, LAL	35	330	250	948	27.1
Lillard, POR	37	307	250	990	26.8
Booker, PHX	34	314	202	892	26.2
Leonard, LAC	28	247	164	707	25.3
Ingram, NOP	34	302	174	860	25.3
Siakam, TOR	27	253	104	677	25.1
James, LAL	36	345	137	904	25.1
Mitchell, UTA	37	342	149	915	24.7
Westbrook, HOU	32	294	157	781	24.4
Wiggins, MIN	29	261	112	697	24.0
LaVine, CHI	38	311	169	907	23.9
Embiid, PHI	31	238	211	725	23.4
Dinwiddie, BKN	36	267	206	807	22.4
Walker, BOS	32	237	119	707	22.1
DeRozan, SAS	36	306	172	791	22.0

Rebounds	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Drummond, DET	37	168	431	599	16.2
Gobert, UTA	35	127	378	505	14.4
Capela, HOU	31	129	316	445	14.4
Whiteside, POR	36	148	355	503	14.0
Sabonis, IND	36	120	350	470	13.1
Antetokoupo, MIL	36	88	373	461	12.8
Embiid, PHI	31	79	303	382	12.3
Vucevic, ORL	27	72	231	303	11.2
Adebayo, MIA	37	96	296	392	10.6
Thompson, CLE	36	146	232	378	10.5

Assists	G	AST	AVG
James, LAL	36	390	10.8
Rubio, PHX	31	287	9.3
Doncic, DAL	33	296	9.0
Young, ATL	35	297	8.5
Simmons, PHI	37	312	8.4
Graham, CHA	40	312	7.8
Lowry, TOR	27	204	7.6
Lillard, POR	37	282	7.6
Harden, HOU	36	270	7.5
Brogdon, IND	27	200	7.4

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Thursday's Men's Result

MICHIGAN 84, PURDUE 78, 20T

PURDUE (9-7)
Hunter 4-14 2-2 10, Williams 16-28 3-6 36, Stefanovic 3-10 1-2 9, Thompson 4-8 4-4 14, Eastern 1-5 0-0 2, Wheeler 0-3 4-4 4, Haarms 0-1 0-0 0, Proctor 1-1 0-1 3, Boudreaux 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 29-71 14-19 78.
MICHIGAN (11-4)
Simpson 9-13 3-5 22, Wagner 6-15 0-0 15, Brooks 2-6 0-2 4, Teske 6-13 5-7 18, DeJulius 2-5 7-10 11, Johns 3-10 0-0 8, Castleton 1-1 0-0 2, Davis 2-2 0-0 4, Nunez 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 31-66 15-24 84.
Halftime-Michigan 32-28. 3-Point Goals-Purdue 6-19 (Thompson 2-3, Stefanovic 2-8, Proctor 1-1, Williams 1-1, Wheeler 0-2, Hunter 0-4), Michigan 7-29 (Wagner 3-9, Johns 2-6, Teske 1-4, Simpson 1-5, DeJulius 0-1, Nunez 0-1, Brooks 0-3). Rebounds-Purdue 42 (Williams 20), Michigan 26 (Teske 9). Assists-Purdue 7 (Williams, Stefanovic, Eastern 2), Michigan 17 (Simpson 9). Total Fouls-Purdue 23, Michigan 17.

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Michigan St.	5	0	1.000	13	3	.813
Maryland	3	1	.750	13	2	.867
Rutgers	3	1	.750	12	3	.800
Illinois	3	2	.600	11	5	.688
Indiana	2	2	.500	12	3	.800
Penn St.	2	2	.500	12	3	.800
Michigan	2	2	.500	11	4	.733
Wisconsin	2	2	.500	9	6	.600
Nebraska	2	2	.500	7	8	.467
Purdue	2	3	.400	9	7	.563
Minnesota	2	3	.400	8	7	.533
Ohio St.	1	3	.250	11	4	.733
Iowa	1	3	.250	10	5	.667
Northwestern	0	4	.000	5	9	.357

Thursday's Games
Michigan 84, Purdue 78, 2OT
Michigan St. 74, Minnesota 58
Friday's Game
Maryland at Iowa
Saturday's Games
Rutgers at Illinois, Noon
Ohio St. at Indiana, Noon
Wisconsin at Penn St., 2:15 p.m.
Nebraska at Northwestern, 4:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Michigan St. at Purdue, Noon
Michigan at Minnesota, 1 p.m.

Thursday's men's games
EAST
Columbia 86, Mount Saint Vincent 56
Hofstra 74, Northeastern 72
LIU 90, CCSU 78
Merrimack 64, Mount St. Mary's 61
Robert Morris 78, St. Francis Brooklyn 52
Sacred Heart 77, Fairleigh Dickinson 75
Siena 61, St. Peter's 58
St. Francis (Pa.) 80, Wagner 62
Towson 89, Drexel 73
SOUTHAustin Peay 75, Tennessee Tech 62
Coll. of Charleston 73, Elon 65
Delaware 80, James Madison 76
E. Kentucky 77, E. Illinois 74
Georgia Southern 67, Louisiana-Monroe 56
Georgia St. 90, Louisiana-Lafayette 52
Jacksonville 68, NJIT 52
Liberty 63, North Alabama 52
Lipscomb 85, Kennesaw St. 73
Marshall 79, Middle Tennessee 75
Morehead St. 83, SIU-Edwardsville 77
Murray St. 72, Jacksonville St. 68
North Florida 89, Florida Gulf Coast 74
South Alabama 75, Arkansas St. 59
UT Martin 87, Tennessee St. 74
William & Mary 79, UNC-Wilmington 63
MIDWEST
Belmont 89, SE Missouri 64
Cleveland St. 64, Detroit 59
Michigan 84, Purdue 78
Michigan St. 74, Minnesota 58
Rio Grande 76, UMKC 64
Wichita St. 76, Memphis 67
Youngstown St. 61, Oakland 60
SOUTHWEST
FAU 81, Rice 76
North Texas 74, FIU 56
Oral Roberts 79, N. Dakota St. 73
Texas State 78, Coastal Carolina 66
Texas-Arlington 66, Appalachian St. 56
UTEP 76, Southern Miss. 64
UTSA 89, Louisiana Tech 73
FAR WEST
California 73, Washington St. 66
Gonzaga 94, San Diego 50
Hawaii 75, Cal St.-Fullerton 69
Montana 90, E. Washington 63
Montana St. 71, Idaho 68
N. Colorado 65, Weber St. 64
New Mexico St. 93, Chicago St. 54
Oregon 74, Arizona 73
S. Utah 71, Idaho St. 55
Sacramento St. 64, N. Arizona 57
Stanford 61, Washington 55
UC Riverside 65, UC Davis 59

NFL

Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 11
Minnesota at San Francisco, 4:35 p.m. (NBC)
Tennessee at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 12
Houston at Kansas City, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
Seattle at Green Bay, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 19
AFC, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)
Pro Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 26
AFC vs. NFC, 3 p.m. (ESPN)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 2
NFC vs. AFC, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	45	26	8	11	63	151	117
Tampa Bay	43	26	13	4	56	160	127
Toronto	45	24	15	6	54	162	145
Florida	44	23	16	5	51	158	148
Buffalo	44	19	18	7	45	128	140
Montreal	45	18	20	7	43	141	147
Ottawa	43	16	22	5	37	118	149
Detroit	44	11	30	3	25	96	168
Metropolitan Division							
Washington	45	30	10	5	65	163	133
N.Y. Islanders	42	27	12	3	57	120	108
Pittsburgh	43	26	12	5	57	146	116
Carolina	43	25	16	2	52	145	123
Philadelphia	44	23	15	6	52	140	136
Columbus	45	21	16	8	50	118	124
N.Y. Rangers	43	21	18	4	46	144	144
New Jersey	43	15	21	7	37	112	154
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
St. Louis	45	28	10	7	63	143	122
Dallas	44	26	14	4	56	120	105
Colorado	44	25	15	4	54	159	130
Winnipeg	45	24	17	4	52	141	139
Nashville	43	20	16	7	47	149	145
Minnesota	44	20	18	6	46	134	146
Chicago	45	19	20	6	44	130	148
Pacific Division							
Arizona	46	25	17	4	54	133	118
Vegas	47	24	17	6	54	149	142
Edmonton	46	24	17	5	53	141	144
Calgary	46	24	17	5	53	127	136
Vancouver	44	23	17	4	50	145	139
San Jose	46	20	22	4	44	124	152
Los Angeles	46	18	24	4	40	118	144
Anaheim	44	17	22	5	39	113	139

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Thursday's Games
Boston 5, Winnipeg 4
Florida 5, Vancouver 2
Edmonton 4, Montreal 2
N.Y. Rangers 6, New Jersey 3
Tampa Bay 4, Arizona 0
St. Louis 5, Buffalo 1
Nashville 5, Chicago 2
Calgary 2, Minnesota 1
Dallas 3, Anaheim 0
Los Angeles 5, Vegas 2
San Jose 3, Columbus 1
Friday's Games
Arizona at Carolina
Ottawa at Detroit
Pittsburgh at Colorado
Saturday's Games
Vancouver at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Los Angeles at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Boston at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Washington, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 10 p.m.
Columbus at Vegas, 10 p.m.
Dallas at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Nashville at Winnipeg, 2 p.m.
Vancouver at Minnesota, 4 p.m.
Buffalo at Detroit, 5 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Arizona, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Florida, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 7 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Agreed to terms with RHP Miguel Castro on a one-year contract.
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with 1B-DH Edwin Encarnación on a one-year contract.
DETROIT TIGERS — Sent LF Brandon Dixon outright to Toledo (IL).
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Promoted Nick Relic to manager of minor league operations; John Wagle to director of performance science and player development; Jarret Abell to coordinator of strength & conditioning; and Rustin Sveum to minor league video coordinator. Named Jason Simontacchi pitching coordinator; Mitch Stetter manager of pitching performance; Drew Saylor hitting coordinator; Keoni DeRenne assistant hitting coordinator; Mike Tosar special assignment hitting coach; Damon Hollins coordinator of outfield, base running and bunting; and Derrick Robinson baseball operations intern.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Agreed to terms with C Max Stassi and RHP Cam Bedrosian to one-year contracts.
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Acquired RHP Peyton Battenfield and OF Cal Stevenson from the Houston Astros for RHP Austin Pruitt. Promoted Barry Newell to vice president, business operations & analytics; David Egles to director, community engagement; Mike Ferrario to director, stadium operations; Dan Newhart to Director, ticket sales & service; Devin O'Connell to Director, public affairs & corporate communications; Ryan Sheets to director, communications and Scott Wilson to director, guest services. Named Stephen Estep director, security. Agreed to terms with RHP Chaz Roe on a one-year contract.
TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Luis García and LHP James Jones on minor league contracts. Released RHP Reed Garrett. Assigned RHP Jimmy Herget outright to Nashville (PCL).
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Named Shane Farrell amateur scouting director. Agreed to terms with INF-OF Brandon Drury on a one-year contract.

GOLF

Famous golf course designer Pete Dye, 94, dies

His courses included TPC Sawgrass and French Lick

BY DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Pete Dye never thought golf was meant to be fair, inspiring him to build courses that visually intimidated recreational players to the best in the world.

The island green at the TPC Sawgrass. Railroad ties that gave frightening definition of putting surfaces fronted by water. More bunkers than could be counted at Whistling Straits.

Dye, among the forefront of modern golf architecture, died Thursday morning in the Dominican Republic at age 94, a spokesperson at Dye Design said. He had been battling Alzheimer's disease for several years.

"You respected him because he built some great golf courses, but in the midst of playing them, you hated his guts," Brandt Snedeker said with a smile.

His name turned out to be the perfect adjective for his challenging courses — "Dye-abolical."

Jack Nicklaus said he owes his second career in golf course design to Dye, whom he first met some 50 years ago.

"I think Pete Dye was the most creative, imaginative and unconventional golf course designer I have ever been around," Nicklaus said. "Pete would try things that nobody else would ever think of doing or certainly try to do, and he was successful at it. If there was a problem to solve, you solved it Pete's way. In the end, Pete's way usually turned out to be the right way."

Greg Norman referred to him as the "Picasso of golf architecture" who changed golf course design in the 20th century.

His golf courses have held four major championships, most recently at Whistling Straits in Wisconsin, which will host the Ryder Cup this coming September.

"While Pete designed to torment the most accomplished professional, his forward tees allowed the most inexperienced to play," said Herb Kohler, who brought Dye to Wisconsin to build courses such as Whistling Straits and Blackwolf Run. "He would challenge the professional both physically and mentally, while remarkably accommodating the raw amateur who was learning the game."

Dye also had several courses on the PGA Tour, mostly notably the TPC Sawgrass, where the Stadium Course has held The Players Championship since 1982. It was little more than swamp land that the PGA Tour purchased for $1. Dye turned it into a course where there hasn't been a stereotype for the brand of golf that suits it best.

It can be scary. It can yield low scores. There is rarely a dull moment.

PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan called him "one of the most important course architects of this or any generation."

The major champions at Dye's courses included John Daly at Crooked Stick for the 1991 PGA Championship; Vijay Singh, Martin Kaymer and Jason Day at Whistling Straits for the PGA Championship in 2004, 2010 and 2015; and Rory McIlroy at Kiawah Island in the 2012 PGA Championship.

"You can't mistake a Pete Dye. You knew it was his as soon as you played it," Singh said. "He had a different set of rules when he built golf courses and every single one he built was tough."

> "I think Pete Dye was the most creative, imaginative and unconventional golf course designer I have ever been around."
>
> — Jack Nicklaus

Suzy Whaley, the president of the PGA of America, said Dye "left an imprint on the world of golf that will be experienced for generations, painting wonderful pictures with the land that continue to inspire, entertain and challenge us."

Many of the courses were designed with his wife, Alice, who died last February at 91. She famously suggested to her husband as they were clearing out a swamp at Sawgrass, "Why not just make an island green?"

"He was an icon when it comes to golf course design," said Snedeker, who won at the Dye-designed Harbourtown Golf Links in Hilton Head, South Carolina. "He was a guy who really made you uncomfortable the whole round. And he did it visually. He'd always make you think.

Born in Urbana, Ohio, Dye sold life insurance when he and his wife had a chance to build their first golf course, a nine-hole track near Indianapolis called El Dorado.

The next year, his wife sent out a rendition of the course with hopes they might get more work. One letter went to Richard Tufts, a former USGA president whose family owned Pinehurst. Alice Dye had won the North & South and knew Tufts.

"He wrote back and said he thought it was wonderful," Dye said in 2008, when he was selected for the World Golf Hall of Fame, in St. Augustine, Fla. "He said, 'I think it's wonderful of you kids to build this nine-hole golf course. But don't you think crossing a creek 13 times in nine holes is just a little too much?'"

The following autumn, Dye said Harlan Hatcher from the University of Michigan was passing through Indianapolis and played his nine-hole course. That led to him bringing Dye to Ann Arbor to build the university's golf course.

"And we've been digging up other people's property ever since," Dye said.

Pro golfer Charles Howell III recalls the time Dye walked nine holes with him for a practice round at Whistling Straits during the 2004 PGA Championship.

"I would ask him, 'Mr. Dye, why would you put that bunker right there. What were you thinking?' And he would look at me and said dryly, 'Just to (tick) you off.' He was a good man who obviously loved golf, just a wonderful course designer who knew how to make difficult golf courses," Howell said.

"If you were going to play well around his places, you couldn't fake it," he said. "It's a sad loss for golf. His footprint was at all of his places, undeniably, and not a lot of designers can say that. And boy, you knew it was going to be tough."

NFL

Point spreads seem a bit high in the divisional playoffs

BY BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer

The best of college football will be on display Saturday night in Baltimore.

Say what?

Well, if you believe the Heisman Trophy represents the top player in the college game, then consider that five of the winners will be there when the Titans visit the Ravens. It's entirely possible that the team advancing to the AFC championship game will do so because its Heisman recipient does the best job.

That probably will be difficult for Robert Griffin III (2011) and Marcus Mariota (2014) — RG3 is Baltimore's backup quarterback and Mariota holds the same job for Tennessee. But QB Lamar Jackson (2016) and RB Mark Ingram (2009) certainly figure to be factors for the Ravens. After all, they helped Baltimore to a 14-2 record, including wins in the last 12 outings.

And Titans RB Derrick Henry (2015) was an unstoppable force in last week's road victory that knocked out the defending champion Patriots.

"Five?" Jackson said of the Super Bowl-era record for Heisman recipients in a game. "I didn't even think about that. It's going to be incredible."

It could be. Except, of course, both sides have formidable defenses, as the Titans (10-7) showed in holding New England to 13 points last week. As the Ravens displayed all season.

"I wouldn't say we're getting dressed and going out on the field and saying, 'Oh man, there's five Heisman Trophy winners out there.' But it is a cool aspect of the game," Griffin said. "Maybe we'll get a picture after the game, but I know that's not what we're thinking about right now."

What Pro Picks is thinking about is a vastly improved performance after going 1-3 straight up in the wild-card round. Our feeling is that most, if not all, of the lines are a bit high. Including the Ravens being 10-point choices over the Titans.

We do like Baltimore, but believe Tennessee's running game, defense and strong coaching will keep it tight.

RAVENS, 23-17

Minnesota (plus 6) at San Francisco, Saturday

The Vikings (11-6) outplayed the Saints in New Orleans last weekend, a big surprise, yet needed overtime to move on. Their versatile pass rush was a huge reason they won, and the Vikings will need more of the same against top-seeded San Francisco (13-3).

But Minnesota erased many of the doubts about its fortitude with that gutsy victory in the Big Easy.

The 49ers look to be getting back starters Kwon Alexander, Dee Ford and Jaquiski Tartt on defense. Those are key additions.

"It's kind of a confidence boost," linebacker Fred Warner said. "It's been a while since we had all those guys back on the field together. The more weapons we have, the more powerful we'll be."

49ers, 27-20

Houston (plus 9) at Kansas City, Sunday

Like Minnesota, Houston (11-6) showed its moxie in an overtime win last Saturday. The Texans rallied from a 16-0 deficit against visiting Buffalo.

They have the playmakers to push the Chiefs (12-4), whose defense really has come around in the past two months, and they won at Kansas City this season.

"These guys understand the opportunity in front of them and they understand what it's going to take in Arrowhead Stadium against a great football team," coach Bill O'Brien said. "They're very appreciative of the opportunity and they're going to do everything they can to try to take advantage of it."

We think the Texans will do so, at least against the hefty spread.

CHIEFS 28-24

Seattle (plus 4) at Green Bay

The Seahawks (12-5) will have their resilience severely tested at Lambeau Field against the rested Packers (13-3). Then again, Seattle seems to play nothing but close games.

It also seems to manage to find the right bodies to fill holes caused by injuries, and it gets optimum contributions from Russell Wilson in clutch situations.

That said, the Packers are as improved as anybody in Matt LaFleur's first season as coach, especially on defense.

"It's been an exciting year," quarterback Aaron Rodgers says. "It's funny, life in general, how much can change in a year. You think about the feeling of the organization and disappointment and everybody really being gone. Now, we're here. There's eight teams left in the playoffs. I think there's a different sentiment about the squad and which way our arrow is pointing and the excitement that the playoffs brings to the organization, the area and the region."

The arrow is pointing up in a close one.

BEST BET: PACKERS, 20-17

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Hot Rutgers to face Illinois

BY ERIC OLSON
AP Sports Writer

What to watch in Big Ten basketball this weekend:

GAME OF THE WEEKEND

Rutgers at Illinois, Saturday. Both teams were picked in the bottom half of the Big Ten in the preseason. Both are surprises. Rutgers (12-3, 3-1) has won six straight and is one game behind league-leading Michigan State. The Scarlet Knights are out to their best 15-game start since the 1975-76 team went undefeated in the regular season. They haven't been two games over .500 in conference play since February 2002. Their 72-61 win over No. 20 Penn State on Tuesday gave them two double-digit wins over ranked teams in the same season for the first time in program history. Illinois (11-5, 3-2) is 1½ games out of first place following its 71-70 win at Wisconsin on Wednesday.

LOOKING AHEAD

Eighth-ranked Michigan State's 74-58 win over Minnesota on Thursday night closed a five-game homestand and opened a stretch of nine straight against teams that are fifth or lower in the conference standings. Not that it means much. The Big Ten is as strong as ever and there are no gimmes. But no one wants to play the Spartans (13-3, 5-0) right now. They've won eight straight and have been extremely sharp since getting a scare at Northwestern on Dec. 18.

PLAYER TO WATCH

Luka Garza is one of the bright spots for Iowa and has established himself as a contender for Big Ten player of the year. The 6-foot-10, 260-pound junior is the only player in Division I averaging better than 20 points and 10 rebounds. He had 16 points and a career-high 18 rebounds in a loss at Nebraska on Tuesday. He's averaging 22.1 points and 10.7 rebounds and is shooting 56.2% and blocks 1.5 shots per game.

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

Home teams entered Thursday 22-3 in conference play, 23-3 if Penn State's "neutral court" win over Iowa at the Palestra in Philadelphia is counted. ... Michigan State's Cassius Winston scored his 1,675th career point and tallied his 802nd career assist on Sunday against Michigan. That made him the first player in Big Ten history with 1,600 career points and 800 career assists. ... Twelve Big Ten teams started the week in the top 50 of the NCAA NET Rankings. No other conference had more than six.

ON THE WOMEN'S SIDE

No. 12 Indiana is out to a program-best 4-0 start in Big Ten play, having won each of the four games by double digits. The Hoosiers posted their most lopsided conference win under sixth-year coach Teri Moren when it beat Illinois 83-42 on Monday. The Hoosiers followed that with a 66-48 win over Purdue on Thursday night. Indiana has one of the top shooting teams in the country, is holding opponents to 24-percent shooting on 3-pointers and has an average winning margin of 21 points.

PURDUE

Continued from B1

comfortable and start making more moves."

Teske scored 18 points and grabbed nine rebounds, and freshman Franz Wagner had 15 points for Michigan. David DeJulius made three free throws in the final minute and finished with 11 points.

But it was Simpson who came up big after a slow start, closing the scoring in regulation and the first overtime, finishing drives to the left with his right hand.

"I seen every one of the Purdue players' heads kind of turn, then I said I got to take it," said Simpson, who had nine assists. "It wasn't more like a selfish thing, it was just a clear lane with no one in the gaps."

In the first overtime, Eric Hunter Jr. missed a contested jump shot for Purdue (9-7, 2-3), and Simpson's desperation 3-pointer on the run also missed for Michigan at the buzzer.

Michigan left little to chance in the second overtime, scoring the first nine points of the session. Teske had a three-point play, followed by 3-pointers from Simpson and Wagner.

Williams, who went to Henry Ford Academy in nearby Detroit, rushed a shot at the end of regulation while Wagner contested.

It was Williams' sixth double-digit scoring output in the last seven games after he had just one in the first nine. His previous career highs were 18 points and 16 rebounds, both achieved last month at Nebraska.

Williams made a fall-away 3-pointer, his second of the season and third in his career, to put Purdue up 60-58 with 1:28 to go. Simpson answered that one, then the next one, with driving layups.

"He's just a winner," Purdue coach Matt Painter said of Simpson. "He won in high school, and he's won here. Guys that are winners, if they score four or six points, it's no big deal. If they have to score 24, they do.

"That's what winning is about."

Isaiah Thompson added 14 points and Eric Hunter Jr. scored 10 points for Purdue.

BIG PICTURE

Purdue: The Boilermakers lost another chance for a resume builder, falling to 1-3 against ranked teams.

Michigan: The Wolverines responded to losing two straight Big Ten games, including at rival Michigan State on Sunday, with a hard-fought home win.

BIG MAN DOWN

Purdue junior center Matt Haarms fell awkwardly in the first half and left the game with an unspecified injury. He did not return, and Painter said no update was available after the game.

STILL OUT

Michigan was playing its third straight game without junior Isaiah Livers, who has a groin injury. Livers is averaging 13.6 points per game, second on the Wolverines.

STICKING UP

Howard stood up for former Michigan coach John Beilein when asked about the comments Beilein made to his Cleveland Cavaliers team. Beilein said Thursday he had apologized after using the word "thugs" while reviewing film with his players the previous day.

"I understand coach made an apology, so that says a lot about his character," Howard said. "Now, the relationship between coach, his players in Cleveland, that's none of my business."

UP NEXT

Purdue: Continues a three-game stretch against ranked opponents Sunday against No. 8 Michigan State. After that, the Boilermakers face No. 12 Maryland.

Michigan: In just their fifth conference game, the Wolverines already have a rematch, visiting Iowa on Sunday. Michigan topped the Hawkeyes 103-91 on Dec. 6.

NFL

Seahawks hoping history doesn't repeat itself again

BY TIM BOOTH
AP Sports Writer

RENTON, Wash. — Seattle linebacker K.J. Wright didn't need to be reminded of his personal history playing in Green Bay and never walking out of Lambeau Field with a win.

"I'm very aware of it," said Wright, who is 0-3 in his career playing in Green Bay. "We got to get it done. We're due for it. It's the first time in the playoffs going there, but it's a very interesting place. I like playing in that stadium. Their fan base loves it there. We've got to make it happen."

Wright's history is a small microcosm of the Seahawks as a whole, both playing on the road against the Packers and in this round of the postseason.

When the Seahawks travel to Green Bay on Sunday for the NFC divisional playoff matchup against the Packers they'll be trying to snap a pair of separate losing streaks spanning more than 20 years.

Seattle has lost eight straight games played in Green Bay, including a pair of postseason losses. The previous time the Seahawks won on the Packers home field, Mike Holmgren was the head coach, Jon Kitna was the quarterback and Y2K had yet to arrive.

And many of those eight games haven't been close. The average margin of victory for the Packers in those eight games has been 17.5 points. One of Seattle's worst losses under Pete Carroll was a 28-point thumping by the Packers late in the 2016 season on a day Russell Wilson threw five interceptions.

"I don't think you can connect a fan base with your team any tighter than you can do it there. They do a great job of knowing how to be a factor," Carroll said. "Then there's conditions too that go along with it. Early in the year it's not a big deal, but late in the year the conditions can be a factor that you can't copy. You just have to adjust when you're there."

Along with the troubles against the Packers in Green Bay, there's another eight-game losing streak hanging over the Seahawks. Playing in the divisional round of the playoffs on the road has been mostly a nightmare for Seattle.

Nine times in franchise history the Seahawks have played a divisional round playoff game on the road. They won their first on Dec. 31, 1983, when they were in the AFC and knocked off the heavily favored Miami Dolphins.

Since then, the Seahawks are 0-8 in this round of the postseason on the road. For all the success the Seahawks have enjoyed in the postseason, it has rarely come on the road.

Of course, Seattle can end both losing streaks by winning Sunday. Doing so would put to rest some painful past playoff memories.

In 2003, a young Seattle team faced the Packers in the wild-card round. The game went to overtime where quarterback Matt Hasselback won the toss and famously said "We want the ball and we're going to score."

It ended up being the Packers scoring, and winning, after Al Harris intercepted Hasselback and returned the pick for a game-winning touchdown.

Four years later, in the divisional round, Seattle jumped out to a 14-0 first-quarter lead against the Packers on a snowy evening. Then Green Bay rolled off 35 of the next 38 points and coasted to a 42-20 win.

None of the players this Sunday were involved in either of those previous playoff meetings in Green Bay. But they all understand the difficulty of trying to win at Lambeau Field in the postseason.

"I'm looking forward to that," said Seattle DE Jadeveon Clowney, who has never played there. "If I leap in there, they might push me down."

LSU

Continued from B1

the distinctive outriggers of shrimp boats rise above the banks.

This is home, where Orgeron's long, circuitous football life began.

"Bebe loves the community," said Adams, referring to Orgeron by his childhood nickname, pronounced BAY-BAY. "He never forgot about the bayou. It oozes out of him.

"He never changed. That's how you know it's Bebe."

Cajun pride is swelling in Lafourche Parish now that the former two-way lineman at South Lafourche High School, who won a 1977 state title with the Tarpons, is on the brink of capping off arguably the LSU Tigers' greatest season in the program's 126-year history with a national title.

No. 1 LSU plays third-ranked Clemson on Monday night in the College Football Playoff championship in New Orleans, about 60 miles northeast of where Orgeron grew up.

LSU has won three national championships before, but the Tigers have never gone 15-0.

Orgeron, 58, is only the third Louisiana native to coach LSU since the Tigers joined the Southeastern Conference in 1933. The coaches of LSU's national title teams all came from out of state: Paul Dietzel (Ohio) in 1958, Nick Saban (West Virginia) in 2003 and Les Miles (Ohio) in 2007.

Not that the people of Lafourche Parish need any football history lessons.

The quarterback of Orgeron's state title team was Bobby Hebert, who also became the first quarterback to lead the New Orleans Saints to the NFL playoffs. Although the area has a small-town feel, the high school stadium, comprised of two large concrete pavilions on each sideline, holds about 6,600 spectators. Traffic on football Friday nights can get backed up for miles on the two-lane roads along each bank of the bayou.

Like virtually everyone in his community, Orgeron was a big LSU fan growing up and accepted a scholarship to play for the Tigers, but struggled with his adjustment to college life away from home and dropped out. Later, he finishing his playing career at Northwestern State.

"I watched LSU football since I can remember," Orgeron said after practice this week. "I knew one day I'd get a chance to represent LSU and just representing all the guys that played in the purple and gold. This is what we live for."

Lane Fillinich, a former high school teammate of Orgeron, said the vibe in Lafourche Parish created by the LSU coach's recent success is like "going to the Holy Land and just that feeling when you're there that comes on you."

"You grew up as an LSU fan, but we've got a horse in the race now," Fillinich said. "We've got the key to the city now, the Cajuns."

The sentiment is widespread in Orgeron's old stomping grounds. On the front lawn of a one-story brick home a few miles up the bayou from where Adams lives is a purple and gold eye-of-the-tiger emblem resembling the one emblazoned on the 50-yard line at LSU's Tiger Stadium.

The home belongs to Cornelia "Coco" Orgeron, Ed Orgeron's 77-year-old mother. She said an artistically inclined neighbor painted it on her lawn and a few others in the area. Motorists often tap their horns in approval as they pass by.

"I go to the store and everybody says, 'Our boy did good,'" Coco Orgeron said. "Let's put it this way, he has a lot more cousins than he ever had."

Coco Orgeron still speaks French to her older friends and laments how Cajuns felt pressure to assimilate during war times in the first half of the 20th century, and often felt unfairly looked down upon as unsophisticated people who knew little of life outside the swamps and marshes. Cajuns, she said, should be known as resourceful, hard-working people with generous hearts.

Historically, the local economy revolved around trapping for pelts, sugar cane or the seafood industry. Shrimp, crabs, crawfish and oysters are favorites found at restaurants with names like Cher Amie's (Dear Friend's). More recently, the off-shore oil industry has been an economic driver, albeit in boom-and-bust cycles related to oil prices, and it has struggled recently.

"We were ridiculed all our lives," Coco Orgeron said while trying to explain why her community is so overjoyed by her son's success.

Absence from guest list hurts old friend of groom's mother

DEAR ABBY: I have had a friend, "Kimberly," for 52 years, ever since first grade. We went all through school together. Teachers described her as a "social butterfly." My dad described her as a "phony." She's an extrovert with a nice personality and many friends. I am more of an introvert, but I do have a few good friends. We are both happily married with children and grandchildren.

Dear Abby

I moved from our hometown 28 years ago, but we have stayed in contact. Kim will call me on my birthday, etc. We talk on the phone every few months and meet for lunch when I go back to visit. She refers to me as her "oldest and dearest friend."

I invited Kim to all four of my children's weddings. She didn't attend, but sent gifts. (Kim has anxiety and doesn't like to travel.) When her older son got married two years ago, I wasn't invited, but I sent a generous gift. Now, her younger son is being married, and again, I'm not invited.

I'd like to share in Kim's joy. There are people attending I'd like to see. I feel like a fool. Do you think my dad was right about Kim? Am I on her "C" list when I thought I was "A"-rated? I feel like a 12-year-old who was excluded from a slumber party. Should I tell her how hurt I am or continue the next 20 years in this "phony" relationship? – Sucker-punched In Kansas

DEAR SUCKER-PUNCHED: Do NOT quietly nurture a grudge that may end your long friendship with Kim. Have a talk with your old friend about your feelings. Depending upon who has footed the bill for these shindigs, you may be blaming the wrong person.

Traditionally, the bride's parents pay for their daughter's wedding; more recently, the happy couples pay for it themselves. For financial reasons, they may have needed to curtail the guest list, which is why you weren't invited. Also, the young couple may have preferred to include more of their own friends, which limited the number of invitations the groom's parents could issue.

DEAR ABBY: I am a senior citizen who lives alone. I was married many years ago, but it ended in divorce. I was unable to conceive a child.

My brothers and sisters all have spouses and children. I am an aunt to many. My problem? The children don't call me "Aunt" anymore. When they were little, it gave me such warm feelings to be called Aunt or Auntie. It made me feel loved and respected. Now that they are grown with kids of their own, they call me by my first name.

Am I silly to be bothered by this? These same nieces and nephews still call their parents "Mom" and "Dad." I called my own aunts by the title well into my 50s until they died. Abby, am I old-fashioned to want to keep my title in a world where respect seems to be a thing of the past? – Forever Auntie In Minnesota

DEAR AUNTIE: I don't think you are silly, and whether you are old-fashioned (or not) is beside the point. Tell your nieces and nephews how much you appreciated being called "Aunt," and ask them to resume using the title. If you had a close relationship with them while they were growing up, I am sure they will respect your wish – especially when you tell them why.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Gregory Hines' dance style
4 Choose
7 Dixie fighter
10 Kimono sash
11 Out in front
13 Previous
14 "Friends" network
15 Coffee and steamed milk
16 Lb. or tsp.
17 Less trying
19 Some parents
21 Tpk.
22 Strut along
23 Decaf brand
26 Apollo's twin
30 Three, in Madrid
31 Pablo's aunt
32 Not hither
33 Want-ad letters
34 MS polishers
35 "— Karenina"
36 Sea cow
39 Firm grip
40 Kind of steer?
41 Gleeful cry
42 Tilting match
45 Pulverized
49 Website suffix
50 Less modern
53 Freud topic
54 Lassie
55 Apple-shaped
56 Scold
57 Stallone nickname
58 Sturm — Drang
59 Work of exaltation

DOWN
1 Muscle quality
2 Mr. Eban
3 Snapshots
4 Windy City airport
5 Cat or canary
6 Trim a doily
7 Gather in, as crops
8 Funny Bombeck
9 Wagers
11 Prince Val's wife
12 Bus station
18 Ticks off
20 Gorilla
22 Bikini tops
23 Mushroom part
24 Geometry problem
25 Inert gas
26 Office assistant
27 Gabby bird
28 Charged particles
29 Break
31 Bristle with
35 "Woe is me!"
37 Situps strengthen them
38 Teach privately
39 Leafy vegetable
41 Revise
42 Keeps fit
43 Uttered
44 Ill-favored
46 Deli sandwich
47 Major Hoople's word
48 Venetian ruler
51 Singer — Rawls
52 Drab color

Answer to Previous Puzzle

F	L	E	A		E	S	A		A	T	O	N
B	O	N	E		P	A	R		D	O	M	E
I	B	I	S		A	C	C	I	D	E	N	T
	O	D	O	R		H	A	N		S	I	S
			P	O	T	E	N	C	Y			
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R	E	L	E	N	T				T	A	I	L
K	N	O	X				C	H	I	C	L	E
S	T	E	P		R	I	P	E		Y	O	W
			O	V	E	R	A	L	L			
R	I	A		A	G	O		D	E	E	P	
A	D	J	U	T	A	N	T		T	I	E	R
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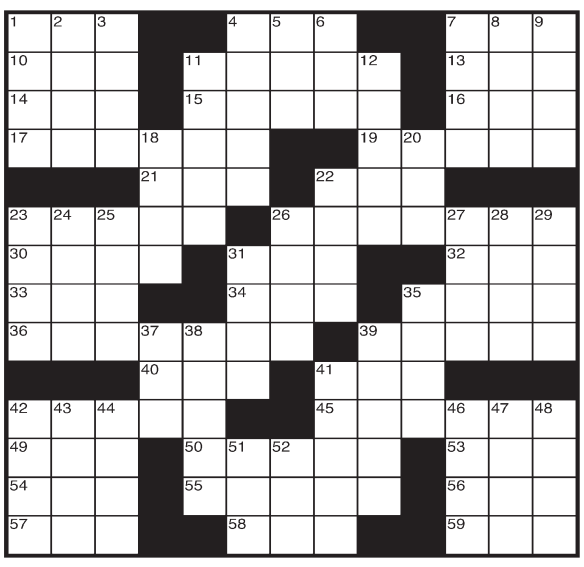
T	E	R	A		E	D	Y		P	E	T	E



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

			7	4		1		
2		1			6	7		
				1			2	
5		7					1	
3				9				8
	6					4		9
	3			7				
		9	4			8		3
		6		8	9			

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

8	3	6	9	5	1	4	7	2
5	2	4	6	7	8	9	3	1
9	1	7	4	3	2	8	5	6
1	7	3	2	6	4	5	8	9
4	6	5	8	9	7	2	1	3
2	8	9	5	1	3	7	6	4
6	4	1	7	8	9	3	2	5
3	9	8	1	2	5	6	4	7
7	5	2	3	4	6	1	9	8

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

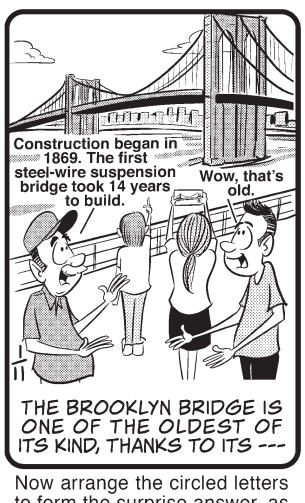
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GOYFG

AYNNN

LWSOYL

TPTIEE



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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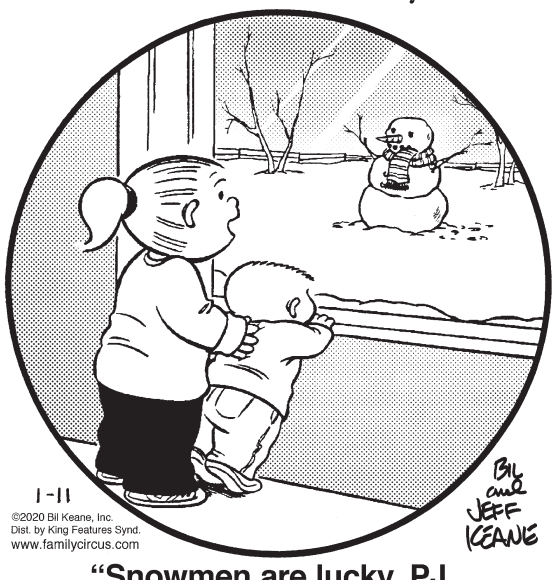
(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: AMAZE AFTER HYPHEN CONCUR
Answer: Running a marathon was invented by the — HUMAN RACE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



1-11
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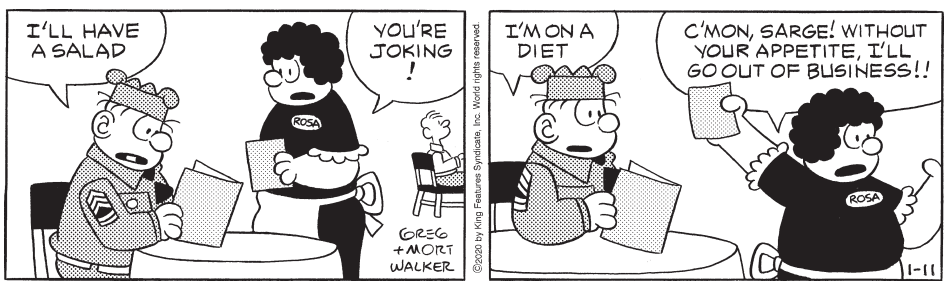
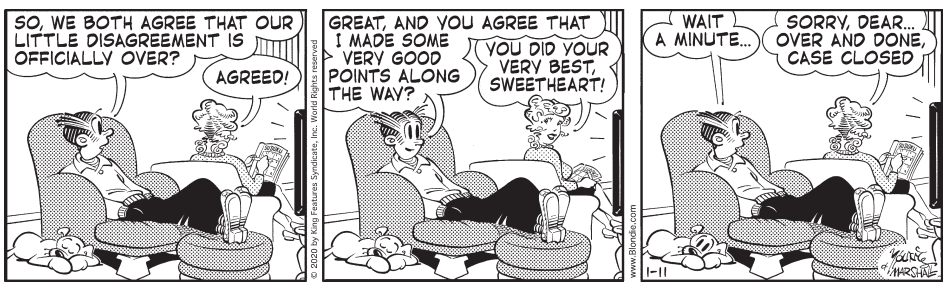
"Snowmen are lucky, PJ. They only hafta work in the wintertime."

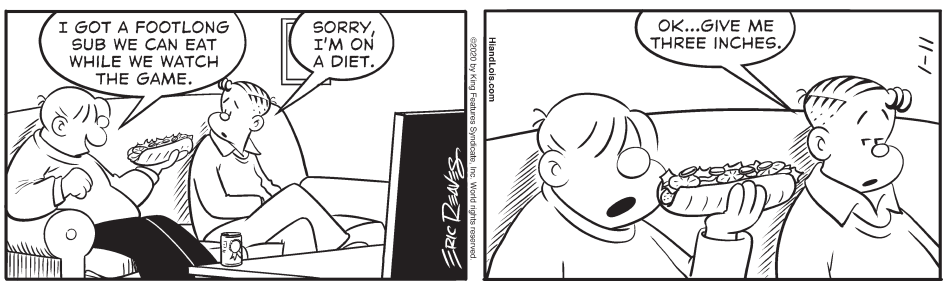
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE

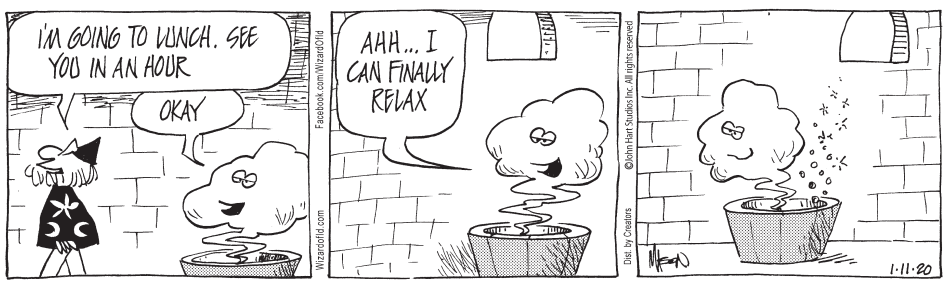


HI & LOIS



BC

WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT

GARFIELD

FORT KNOX

PICKLES

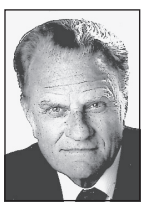
Peace will not come to the world until Christ returns

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: Will we ever achieve peace on earth? – P.S.

A: The human race continues its futile search for peace in all the wrong places, placing its hope in governments, successes, or religions. This is what the Bible says concerning mankind's futility: "The way of peace they have not known" (Romans 3:17). Today there is little personal, domestic, social, economic, or political peace anywhere. Why? Mankind has within it the seeds of suspicion, violence, hatred, and destruction.

Billy Graham
My Answer



Millions search for what can only be found in Christ. There have been men and women who had the ability to write a check for a million dollars, and would offer it, if it would bring them peace. But peace cannot be bought.

Peace will not come to the world until Christ returns. "Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth? I tell you, not at all, but rather division" (Luke 12:51). Jesus was not saying that He prevented peace; He was giving fair warning that His message would divide people. After all, who likes to be told they are sinners who must repent? When Christ began His earthly ministry, He showed love, gave comfort, and brought healing. The people's response was to oppose Him, reject Him, arrest Him, and kill Him.

And Satan does everything in his power to steer peace seekers away from the Peacemaker, Jesus Christ. The same people that talk of peace, lobby for it and convene peace conferences, are often the same people who are blinded by Satan who does not want the world to recognize the Source of peace.

But personal peace can be realized in the here and now. Jesus said, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace" (John 16:33). The future does not hinge on the world situation, however grim it might become. It depends on what each person does about Jesus Christ.

CELEBRITY CIPHER
by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"V YXHMMK EL UXMVXTX SWHS SWX PLOS VPFLYSHAS SWVAJ VO SWX BHK KLG MVTX KLGY MVZX LA XHYSW."

— UHYUHYH BHMSXYO

Previous Solution: "Bill Maher and Jon Stewart ... the three of us have interest in politics. ... We're fundits! We're not pundits!" — Joy Behar

TODAY'S CLUE: Z equals F

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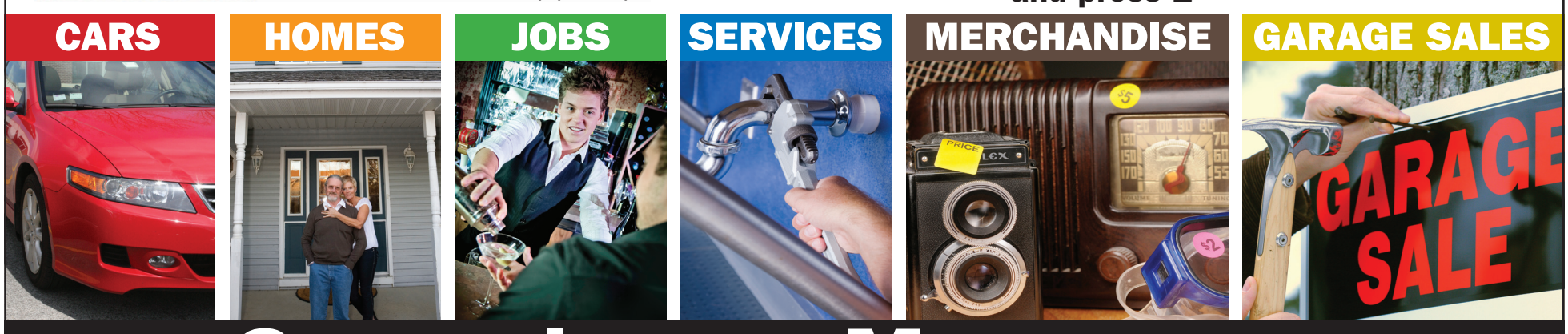

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Colfax, IN
Missing since 12/8/19
Lucy
Australian Shepherd mixed with English setter
Pink Collar with vet tags
Looks more like a Gordon Setter
Contact
765-376-0358

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General Help

Marion Fire Department will be accepting applications for the position of Firefighter starting 11/27/19 and ending 1/16/20. Applications, minimum requirements and job description can be obtained at Fire HQ, 301 S. Branson St. 3rd floor, Marion Monday through Friday 8 AM – 4 PM. Applications must be returned by 1/16/20 4:00PM.
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MERCHANDISE

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REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

Real Estate for Rent

RENT OR OWN!

1, 2 & 3 BR
Brand New
Mobile Homes
to Rent Starting at
$525

Handy Man
Specials Price
to Sale:

2BR 1BA $1,200
2BR 1BA $1,500
2BR 1BA $1,500
2BR 1BA $1,900
Handyman Specials need carpet and paint.

3 communities to choose from in Marion and 1 in Peru

Call Today
765-664-9551

Sell your unwanted items quickly with a classified ad.

Unfurnished Apartments

MARION

2 Bdrm Condos

2 or 3 Bdrm Houses

Office Space South Marion
Nice Location

Call for our Fall Move-In Specials

765-662-3460

Unfurnished Apartments

MARION

1 BR 509 E Bradford St. $140/wk; basic utilities included

1 BR 210 S Branson St. $100/wk; tenant pays all utilities

2 BR 605 W 3rd St. $140/wk; basic utilities included

2 BR 215 E 3rd St. $170/wk; basic utilities included

2 BR 509 E Bradford St. $165-175/wk; basic utilities included

3 BR 509 E Bradford St. $200/wk; basic utilities included

MATTHEWS
1 BR 135 E 10th St. $80/wk; tenant pays electric

Please call us if you have any questions
765-662-1499
or visit our website
www.hoosierrentalgroup.com

Peru, IN
In Hidden Hills (Peru),
1 bdrm, 1 bath
$550/ mo.
plus deposit.
Plus lights
No pets
Perfect for a couple
Please call:
317-650-7051
Call or text
Avail. now

People Do Read Small Ads. You Did!

Unfurnished Apartments

Marion
NOW LEASING
Providence Place Senior Community, Available now!
1st floor apartments: Wheelchair accessible & hearing impaired units
1 Bdrm, income based, controlled building access, must be 62 or older, free water, sewer & trash, pet friendly, cable ready, laundry, library, computer room,
TTY:711
765-664-5957

MARION
Castle Apartments
215 E 3rd Street

Now leasing 1 BDR unfurnished Apts. as well as 2 BDR furnished Apts.

Short Term Leases Available

Please call Hoosier Rental Group for more information (765) 662-1499 or visit our website hoosierrentalgroup.com & click on the Castle Apartments tab

Marion
Spacious
Luxury
1 BR w/large walk-in closet,
New Carpet,
Large deck
$575 mo.
NO PETS
NO SMOKING
WITH W/D
317-506-1102

Furnished Apartments

MARION
Mason Village
1 bedroom furnished apt, cable, & utilities included 1 month free internet. Starting at $165 a week. No Pets
765-673-5000

Homes for Rent

MARION

2 BR 1740 W 10th St. $300/mo. tenant pays all utilities

2 BR 2314 S Adams St. $500/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 616 N Washington St. $600/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1305 S Boots St. $600/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1723 W 4th St. $600/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 501 W 1st St. $500/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1423 W 3rd St. $600/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 436 E Marshall St. $600/mo. tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1619 W Jeffras St. $600/mo tenant pays all utilities

4 BR 1652 W 2nd St. $600/mo. tenant pays all utilities

MATTHEWS
2 BR 211 E 9th St. $500/mo. tenant pays all utilities

Please call us if you have any questions
765-662-1499 or visit our website
www.hoosierrentalgroup.com

Marion, IN
Newly remodeled 1 bdrm house not in an apartment complex Washer/Dryer hookup, garage, off street parking $425/mo + Deposit Housing approved & accepted
765-668-8446

Homes for Rent

Marion/Lagro
Nice clean
3-BR house
$250 wk.
Apt's 2-story
3BR with W/D hookup $225 wk.
Also, 2 BR mobile home in Lagro. Private drive. Sitting on it's own land. Quiet area $210 wk. Each are all utilities paid. Others available soon.
765-251-1135

Rooms for Rent

MARION, IN
Large furnished bedroom for rent in a large private home near MGH, 1.5 acres, pond. $375/mo or $100/weekly upon approval, plus $200 deposit. All utilities, kitchen, pantry, 1/2 frig, TV, WIFI, Cable, HBO, SHO, MAX, STARZ, parking included Working preferred. call for more information, Jim or Diane (916)995-4400

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Business Properties

Gas City

Pizza Hut

Building

and Property

for Rent or Sale.

Call 765-674-7781

Monuments/ Cemeteries

MARION
4 Cemetery Plots Garden of Memory's in the Prayer Section $450/each
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PAYING CASH
****
TOP $$$
For 2001
or Newer
Clean
Motorcycles

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Text
765-623-3775

Cars for Sale

Blinn Auto Sales
628 E. 3rd St.
765-668-7777
Buy Here Pay Here

	Down
07 Impala	$300
06 G-6	$300
11 Impala	$400
03 Benz 500E	$500
08 V.W. EOS	$600
04 Nissan 350	$600
06 Silverado	$900
10 Navigator	$1000
06 Silverado	$1000
06 Ram 250	$1500

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Highest Prices Paid Guaranteed for your running or non running car, truck or van with or without titles. I pick up 7 days a week.
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Junk Cars, Trucks & Vans
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Towing free
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White Space Sells

FINANCIAL

LEGALS

Auction Sales

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Real Estate AUCTION

Saturday, January 25 @ 9:30

1575 Poplar St - Huntington, IN

Brick home with 1608 sq. ft. of living space, consisting of 3 bedrooms, 1 ½ baths, kitchen, dining room, living room with fireplace, full basement and attached 2 car garage, PLUS 2 car detached garage. Great Northside location.

Open Houses: Sunday, January 12 from 1 to 2 PM & Wednesday, January 15 from 5 to 6 PM

Rosemary M. Zeller - Seller
Steve Ness - Auction Manager, 260-417-6556

For a Free Recorded Message, Call 1-877-297-7407 ID 6571

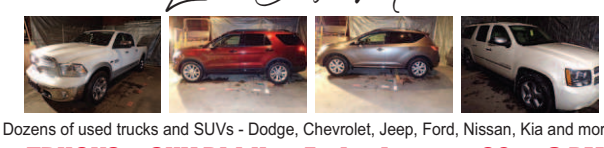
260-356-3911 or 800-356-3911
#AC39600001 **www.NessBros.com**

Auction Sales

NESS BROS. REALTORS & AUCTIONEERS Since 1961

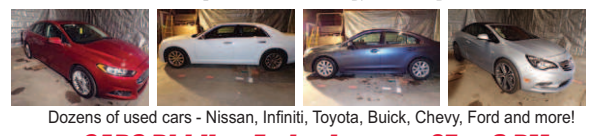
Online Only Bankruptcy AUCTION

Lake City Motors



Dozens of used trucks and SUVs - Dodge, Chevrolet, Jeep, Ford, Nissan, Kia and more!

TRUCKS & SUV Bidding Ends: January 20 at 3 PM
Inspection Date: Sunday, January 12 from 1 to 3 PM
at 1625 Hartman St. - Huntington, IN
Trucks & SUVs Pickup Date: Saturday, January 25 from 2 to 5 PM



Dozens of used cars - Nissan, Infiniti, Toyota, Buick, Chevy, Ford and more!

CARS Bidding Ends: January 27 at 3 PM
Inspection Date: Sunday, January 19 from 1 to 3 PM
at 1625 Hartman St. - Huntington, IN
Cars Pickup Date: Saturday, February 1 from 2 to 5 PM
100% FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFIED BUYERS THROUGH FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK IN HUNTINGTON
Visit our website for photos and vehicle listings!
Dustin Roach, Trustee - Seller; Auction Manager: Kurt Ness, 260-417-1545
For Free Recorded Message, Call 1-877-297-7407 ID 6471

260-459-3911 or 800-356-3911
#AC39600001 **www.NessBros.com**

CAREERS ARE MADE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

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Special Notice

Business & SERVICE DIRECTORY

PFS
PREMIER FOUNDATION SOLUTIONS

* Wet Basement or Crawl Space
* Cracks in Foundation/Basement Walls or Floors
* Setting of Foundation
* Basement Floor or Wall Gaps

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Financing Available

Premier Foundation Solutions
FREE ESTIMATES • INSURED

We fix foundation, basement & crawl space problems
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* Yard Drainage Issues
* Crawl Space Moisture
* Basement Humidity
* Foundation Settlement
* Bowed or Buckling Foundation
* Basement Walls
* Foundation Wall Cracks
* Tuck Pointing
* Air Quality
* Sagging Unlevel Floors
*Spray Foam Insulation
* Complete Foundation and Basement Replacement
* Concrete Repair

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DESIGNED FOR AARP MEMBERS

$370* AVERAGE SAVINGS WHEN YOU SWITCH

IF YOUR CURRENT INSURANCE IS:	YOU COULD SAVE:
GEICO	$380
ALLSTATE	$477
STATE FARM	$383

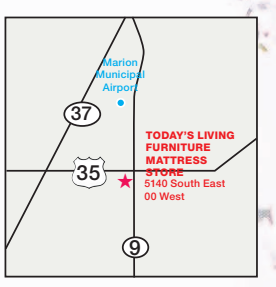
TO SPEAK WITH AN AGENT AND REQUEST A FREE QUOTE CALL: **1-855-765-2508**

*Savings amounts are averages based on information from The Hartford's AARP Auto Insurance Program customers who became new policyholders between 1/1/16 and 12/31/16 and provided data regarding their savings and prior carrier. Your savings may vary. AARP and its affiliates are not insurers. Paid endorsement. The Hartford pays royalty fees to AARP for the use of its intellectual property. These fees are used for the general purposes of AARP. AARP membership is required for Program eligibility in most states. The AARP Automobile Insurance Program from The Hartford is underwritten by Hartford Fire Insurance Company and its affiliates, One Hartford Plaza, Hartford, CT 06155. In Washington, the Auto Program is underwritten by Hartford Casualty Insurance Company. Auto program is currently unavailable in Massachusetts, Canada and U.S. Territories or possessions. Specific features, credits and discounts may vary and may not be available in all states in accordance with state filings and applicable law. Applicants are individually underwritten and some may not qualify.

HURRY - 4 DAYS ONLY!

NEW YEAR NEW SAVINGS SALE

TODAY'S LIVING
Furniture
Mattress



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8" CHIME MATTRESS ONL
ANY SIZE
$298
TWIN, FULL, QUEEN, KING

BONUS COUPON

BUY A RECLINER AND GET A CHAIRSIDE TABLE FOR ONLY $29

See store for details. Valid through 01/20/20.

BONUS COUPON

12 MONTH NO INTEREST
FINANCING AVAILABLE

See store for details. Valid through 01/20/20.

BONUS COUPON

BUY ANY TABLE LAMP GET A 2ND MATCHING LAMP 50% OFF!

While supplies last. Valid through 01/20/20.

BONUS COUPON

WALL SAVER RECLINER $199
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!
Valid through 01/20/20.